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FIRST EDITION.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. Merrimon submitted a resolution providing for an additional rule for the government of the Senate, so that the River and Harbor Appropriation bill, and amendments proposing appropriations for the improvement of rivers and harbors, be referred to the Committee on Commerce, which committee shall, before reporting them back to the Senate, refer them to the Secretary of War and Chief of Engineers, which officers shall inquire and report as to the expediency of the proposed improvements. Referred.

Mr. Bogy presented a memorial of himself, Senators Stevenson and McDonald, embracing the report of the Democratic committee which witnessed the count by the Returning Board in Louisiana. Ordered printed.

The resolution submitted yesterday by Mr. Bayard, directing the Attorney General to inform the Senate as to the number of deputy United States marshals employed on election day, was agreed to, with the amendment submitted by Mr. Edmunds, requesting the Attorney General to also communicate to the Senate a full statement as to the necessity for their employ, the object thereof, nature of their duties, etc.

Mr. Davis introduced bills making an appropriation for continuing the improvement of the Great Kanawha river in West Virginia and the Monongahela river in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Referred.

Mr. Merrimon introduced a bill to amend section 146 of the Revised Statutes of the United States in regard to vacancies in the office of President and Vice President. Referred.

The bill introduced by Senator Merrimon provides that the Secretary of State, or in case of his death the Secretary of the Treasury, shall succeed to the Presidency, in the event of the death, removal or resignation of both President and Vice President.

The Senate then discussed the resolution of Mr. Mitchell, providing for an investigation in regard to the appointment of Cronin as Presidential elector in Oregon.

Mr. Mitchell said he did not intend to go into a discussion of the question of the electoral vote of Oregon. It would be discussed hereafter by more able men. It was not often that the country was startled as it had been by the violation of the law by the Chief Executive of the State of Oregon. The Constitution of that State, in specifying and defining the duties of Governor, said he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed. It also provided that in all elections held by the people, the person or persons receiving the highest number of votes should be declared by the elected; and further, that the vote for Presidential electors should be canvassed in the same manner as the votes for members of Congress, and that the Governor should issue his certificate of election to the person or persons having the highest number of votes. The law nowhere gave the Governor jurisdiction to enter into the question of the eligibility of this or that man. This was not a case where the officer committed an error of judgment. It was a case where the officer had taken jurisdiction without any authority of law. He thought, with all the facts before them, there would be none here or elsewhere or hereafter, statesmen or politicians, that would have the hardihood to defend the act of the Governor of Oregon in issuing a certificate to Cronin, and refusing to issue it to Watts.

Mr. Morton said he desired very briefly to present some authorities on this subject, which he had not with him when the subject was before them. Mr. Morton then quoted from the California case of Saunders vs. Hays, where the court held that ineligibility of a person receiving the highest number of votes did not elect a person receiving a less number. He next quoted from the Wilkes case in England, and said it had been stated that under the English doctrine a minority candidate was elected where the majority candidate was ineligible. In every English case which he had examined, the minority candidate had not been elected, unless actual notice of the ineligibility of the person receiving a majority had been given to the voters before the election.

Mr. Morton next read from the New York Reports to show that it had been decided in that State that the ineligibility of a person receiving the highest number of votes did not elect the minority candidate.

Mr. Saulsbury said the Governor of Oregon, in his statement of facts attending his action, said the people had voted for Watts had business with his office, and knew that he was postmaster.

Mr. Morton replied that perhaps not one person in a thousand knew that the holding of the office of postmaster disqualified him from being an elector. Perhaps there was not one man in the convention that had placed the electoral ticket in nomination who knew that holding the office of postmaster disqualified a person as Presidential elector. Governor Grover claimed, in his letter, that his action was sustained by both English and New York authorities; but he was wrong, as he was not sustained by either.

Mr. Maxey said the ineligibility of Watts was spoken of by Democratic speakers in Oregon during the campaign.

Mr. Logan said: Every voter in the State was notified that Watts was ineligible; that did not elect the other man.

Mr. Morton, resuming, said in England it had been held that where the voter had been specially notified of the ineligibility of a candidate and persisted in voting for such candidate, he threw his vote away and the minority candidate was elected; but in this country it has been held that even such direct information of the ineligibility of the candidate did not elect the minority candidate.

Mr. Sargent said he knew something about Pacific slope politics, and he did not think it had been proclaimed by Democratic speakers throughout Oregon that Watts was ineligible.

Mr. Mitchell said he spoke twenty-five times during the late campaign, and visited nearly every county in the State. He never heard any question raised as to the ineligibility of Watts, either by Democrats, Republicans or in any newspaper. He left Oregon on the 11th of November, for San Francisco, and heard nothing of the ineligibility of Watts till he reached that city.

Mr. Morton said everybody knew the desire of both political parties for success. If the attention of the Republicans of Oregon had been called to the fact that Watts was ineligible, they would have changed the ticket at once. Mr. Morton again quoted from numerous English and American authorities in support of his argument. He then referred to the action of the Governor of Oregon, and said the eligibility of Watts was a judicial question, with which Governor Grover had nothing to do. He had no right to decide it. The Governor's duty was a ministerial duty to perform by issuing the certificates to those who received the highest number of votes, and it was a clear usurpation of power in the Governor to attempt to decide upon the eligibility of Watts. It was a palpable wrong for which no excuse could be offered. Under an old English law persons executed for crime were buried by the roadside, and every one passing cast a stone at the grave, so that the monument of the criminal might grow up with each succeeding generation. In regard to this Oregon transaction, every future historian would add a comment from generation to generation, which would increase its magnitude.

Pending discussion, Mr. Edmunds demanded the regular order, being the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to have the electoral vote counted by the Supreme Court.

Mr. West submitted a joint resolution extending the time for making the report of the commission to inquire into the feasibility of reducing the army until January 20, 1877. Agreed to.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the regular order, demanded by Mr. Edmunds, and the amendment proposed by the Committee on Judiciary, providing that the count, in making the count, shall disregard errors of form and be governed by the substantial right of the matter, was agreed to. Other amendments of the committee of a verbal character were agreed to.

Mr. Edmunds submitted an amendment to the amendment proposed by him a few days ago, making the measure applicable to the present Presidential contest, in case it be ratified by three-fourths of the States, &c., so as to provide that the court shall fix a day not later than the 10th of February, 1877, for the count, and proceed with it from day to day until disposed of. Agreed to.

The joint resolution was then reported to the Senate, and the amendments made in Committee of the Whole concurred in.

Mr. Merrimon proposed to amend the second section of the joint resolution so as to read: "No person holding the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States shall be eligible to be elected as President or Vice President or appointed to any office under the United States until the expiration of four years next after he shall have ceased to be such justice." Mr. Merrimon said the object of his amendment was to cut off any hope of office that a Supreme Court judge might expect at the hands of a President.

Mr. Edmunds said he would not oppose the amendment submitted by the Senator from North Carolina [Merrimon]. He did not understand that the measure now proposed would impose a political duty upon the Supreme Court, any more than its duty now when called upon to decide the constitutionality of any law passed by Congress was a political one. This measure was to apply the supreme law of the land to a state of facts presented to the court.

Mr. Merrimon argued that the effect of this proposition would be virtually to make the Supreme Court a national returning board for the election of President, and it would be brought into contempt. The dignity, integrity and sacredness of that court should be protected and shielded, not only by the legal profession but by the whole American people from the calumnies too often indulged in by both political parties.

The amendment of Mr. Merrimon was agreed to.

Mr. Conkling, in reply to a question of Mr. Key, said that one object of the Judiciary Committee in requiring electors to vote *viva voce*, instead of by ballot, was to have the provision of the Constitution forbidding electors to vote for candidates for President and Vice President from the same State carried out. If allowed to vote by ballot, this provision of the Constitution could be violated, but if the electors were required to vote *viva voce*, it could not be violated.

The question being on the final passage of the resolution, Mr. Bogy said he desired to speak upon this subject, but had not had an opportunity to prepare himself yet. He asked that the further consideration of the joint resolution be postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Morton said the subject was one of great importance, and he trusted would be laid over until Monday next, that Senators might have time to examine into it.

Mr. Edmunds said it was not his intention to unduly press this subject before the Senate, but Senators could not shut their eyes to the fact that the present condition of affairs was unsatisfactory, and if there was any way to settle this serious difficulty, one which alarms a great many people, that way should be taken as speedily as due consideration would allow. This matter had been on the tables of Senators since last session, and he could not consent to its postponement until next week. He did not feel at liberty to press it to a vote to-day, and therefore would not oppose the request of the Senator from Missouri [Bogy] to allow it to be over until to-morrow. The matter should be acted upon as speedily as possible, in order that the other House of Congress would have time to act upon it, and the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States have time to ratify it, if acceptable. On the other hand, if it should fail, Congress should not be slow in finding some other means of ascertaining the result of the last Presidential election.

Mr. Morton again opposed the measure, and said the Senate was called upon to enact by it the electoral college, with all its faults, and also the provision of the Constitution authorizing the House of Representatives to elect a President, which was a dangerous one. In his opinion, both these provisions of the Constitution should be wiped out. There was a bill now before the Senate to provide for counting the electoral vote, which had been on the Senate table, was still on the table on account of a motion to reconsider which had been entered. This bill might be passed to meet the present emergency. He hoped the Senate, in the present difficulty, would not be driven to the passage of a constitutional amendment, which re-enacted two of the most dangerous provisions in the Constitution.

Pending discussion, Mr. Oglesby introduced a bill to amend the act of August 11, 1876, providing for the sale of the Osage ceded lands in Kansas to actual settlers. Referred.

After an executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Blair introduced a constitutional amendment forbidding the manufacture and sale of distilled liquors as a beverage after 1960. Referred.

The House Judiciary Committee, by a vote of seven against three, decided to report that Mr. J. B. Beaford should be admitted a seat as a Member of Congress from Colorado. The affirmative votes were given by Messrs. Knott, Lynde, Lord, McCrary, Caulfield, Frye and Hoar. Messrs. Hurd, Hunton and Lawrence present a minority report taking an opposite view.

Mr. Lawrence was not present, having gone to South Carolina.

The committee also resolved to recommend the appointment of a special House committee to inquire into the powers and duties of the House under the existing law as to the counting of the electoral vote, etc. A resolution for this purpose will be reported as an additional clause to the McCreery resolution, which provides for the creation of a joint committee to frame an act or constitutional amendment, in regard to counting the votes for President, Vice President, etc.

Mr. Bland demanded the resumption of business under the twenty-first joint rule, which requires that at the second session of Congress all unfinished business of the preceding session shall be taken up in regular order.

The Speaker caused the rule to be read, and decided inasmuch as that rule was imperative, the unfinished business of the last morning hour of the last session must be taken up for consideration.

Mr. Burchard suggested that while he had no objection to the resumption of the consideration of the last morning hour of the last session, it should be resumed under rule 136 of the House.

The Speaker remarked that both rules were to the same effect, except that joint rule twenty-one was imperative, using the word "shall."

Mr. Garfield said he had no objection to the ruling of the Chair under the 136th rule of the House, but that if that ruling implied that the twenty-first joint rule was in existence, and binding upon the House, he should respectfully appeal from that decision.

Speaker—The Chair so decides.

Mr. Burchard—It is unnecessary to appeal from the decision of the Chair, so far as the 136th rule is concerned.

Mr. Garfield—I do not take that appeal.

Mr. Burchard—The question does not arise whether the twenty-first joint rule is in force or not, and before the Speaker decides that question (if it should arise), gentlemen on this side of the House desire to be heard upon it.

Mr. Garfield said he agreed perfectly with the ruling of the Chair under the 136th rule, but he wanted to call the attention of the Chair to the fact that the very joint rule which had been referred to and which was printed in the House volume of rules or digest, was not printed as a rule of the present Congress; but the joint rules were headed, "Joint rules and orders of the two Houses, as they existed at the close of the Forty-third Congress."

The Speaker—That was put in there without authority of any one who had the right to authorize it.

Mr. Garfield continued to quote from the digest, to the effect that the omission was explained by the resolution of the Senate of the 22d of January, 1876, setting it out in full; that the resolution asked concurrence of the House, and that it was referred to the Committee on Rules, but had never been acted on. This same question had arisen last week in the Senate, and it was then determined, with but four dissenting votes, that there are no joint rules in force.

Mr. McCrary sent to the Clerk's desk and had read an extract from the House proceedings of last session, to show that on a question which then arose, Speaker Kerr ruled that the Constitution gave each House the right to adopt its own rules, and that that right could not be superseded.

The Speaker remarked that the extract just read confirmed in a remarkable manner his present impressions, inasmuch as in that discussion the word "joint" was not once used, but that the whole discussion had reference only to the House rules proper, implying that the joint rules were to be reached in some other way than by the simple action of the House.

Mr. Garfield argued that no rules, either joint or several, can bind the House except by its consent, and that the proposition that a joint rule coming from a former Congress had any more authority in the Forty-fourth Congress than a House rule had was, if not absurd, certainly untenable.

The Speaker—Has not the gentleman himself frequently, in former Congresses, moved to suspend the sixteenth and seventeenth joint rules without those rules having been formerly adopted by that Congress?

Mr. Garfield—Certainly, I admit that freely, and for the reason that whenever the two Houses of Congress proceed without challenge to act under the rules, there is an implied assent to those rules, and they are unchallenged. But the assumption of the Speaker's ruling to-day is that the House can bind the Senate to be governed by rules to which it does not consent, and of course it never does. In that way a Congress that sat ten years ago could bind all later Congresses forever, unless one body chose to release the other from the old obligation. A dead Congress, thus absolutely nullifying the constitutional privileges of the House and also of the Senate. We have never adopted joint rules for the Forty-fourth Congress. We have never concurred with the Senate in the rules which it proposed to adopt. The last and present presiding officer of this House, the presiding officer of the Senate, our journal, our body of rules in the form of a digest, all concur in the assumption that there are no joint rules of the Forty-fourth Congress. There is no body of rules printed in our book which professes to be the joint rules of the Forty-fourth Congress. Still I do not wish, on an incidental and informal point, to bring the House to a vote on this question without time for consideration. Everybody can see that there can be a very great public question that will turn upon the twenty-second joint rule, and I prefer that whenever we come to that discussion, we shall come to it on a direct issue, with full debate. I therefore withdraw the appeal.

Mr. Springer asked Mr. Garfield whether the joint rules were in existence at the close of the Forty-third Congress.

Mr. Garfield declined to answer until after he should have examined the question.

The Speaker—The Chair does not wish, by any statement of his, to anticipate that question, except herein connected with matter of fact. This House, composed of some of the same gentlemen who, notwithstanding, did at the end of last session recognize the fact that the joint rules were in existence by adopting unanimously a resolution to suspend joint rules sixteen and seventeen.

Mr. Springer—These joint rules have never been readopted by any subsequent Congress from the foundation of the Government to the present time. The twenty-second joint rule was acted under in counting of the Presidential vote of 1869, and also in 1873, and yet it was never adopted but once—in 1865.

Mr. Hoar asked Mr. Springer whether the rule of action which had been handed down by tacit consent from Congress to Congress as to the mode of proceeding of the two Houses was not necessarily abrogated by a message from one of them to the other that it considered those joint rules no longer in force; otherwise would not the House be bound not merely by the act of a previous House, as in the case of its own rules, but by the act of a previous Senate?

Mr. Springer—If the doctrine be maintained that when a joint rule is established between the two Houses, one of them can abrogate that rule at his will, there is no necessity whatever for adopting joint rules, because they do not bind either party to the agreement.

The Speaker stated that the history of the two Houses as to joint rules showed that when any proposition by one House to amend them failed in the other House, the rules continued to be recognized, accepted and acted under as if they were in full force.

Mr. Kasson—That only shows that the House, in proposing the amendment, consented that the rules should go on without amendment.

The Speaker—The Chair thinks that that which it takes two bodies to do takes two bodies to undo. It is a mere matter of opinion.

Mr. Springer—The joint rules were adopted in the form of a concurrent resolution, and a concurrent resolution cannot be repealed by one body without the consent of the other.

Mr. Hoar—Does the gentleman say that a rule adopted by concurrent resolution at the beginning of the Government binds successive Houses of Representatives forever until the Senate abandons it?

Mr. Springer—Until both Houses abandon it, I do, certainly. The gentleman from Massachusetts himself, when the Presidential votes of 1873 were being counted, objected to votes being cast for Horace Greeley because he was dead, and his objection was based on the twenty-second joint rule, which never had been readopted since its adoption in 1865.

Mr. Hoar—Both Houses were acting under it by consent.

Mr. Springer—It never had been readopted, and had no validity at all except that given to it in 1865.

Mr. Hoskins—If the gentleman from Illinois holds that these joint rules cannot be abrogated except by the consent of two Houses, I would like to inquire by what law or authority, after the Senate has repealed unanimously the rights of them, the House or any other body can enforce them.

Mr. Springer—We cannot compel the Senate to abide by its own rules. That body is a law unto itself and has put itself to our part abide by those rules and we choose to do it. [Applause on the Democratic side.]

Mr. McCrary remarked that Speaker Kerr decided, at the beginning of last session, that each House has under the Constitution the absolute right to make the rules which govern its proceedings, and therefore the rule which had been adopted in the Forty-third Congress were not in force at the beginning of the Forty-fourth Congress. That decision covered the whole ground of this controversy, unless gentlemen would say that a joint rule was a rule for the government of the House of Representatives.

The Speaker—It does not follow that the House is not governed by joint rules, especially when the House is reminded of the fact that the two bodies, in so far as the twenty-second joint rule is concerned, for several times operated under it in counting the electoral vote, and so far as the Chair is concerned he is not aware of any reason why that rule should not be executed once more. [Applause on the Democratic side.]

Mr. Kasson—Can there be a joint rule to which both Houses are not at the time agreed? Does it cease to be a joint rule the moment that either House dissents?

The Speaker—In the judgment of the Chair the joint rules operate to bind both bodies until they are vacated.

Mr. Kasson—By one body?

The Speaker—The Chair did not say that.

Mr. Hoar remarked that the proposition advanced on the Democratic side was a *reductio ad absurdum*, and he was willing to have any collection of school boys or any collection of statesmen in the country able to understand those principles of parliamentary law which the Speaker's decision baby in the cradle was supposed to know instinctively, consider such a proposition as that.

Mr. Springer, in reply to Mr. Hoar, referred him to the opinion of his former colleague [General Butler], given in an interview to the effect that if an instructed A says that A and B are to do a certain thing, as, for example, to make an award or to enter a judgment, A cannot do it when B does not do it without C.

The discussion here closed, and under the ruling of the Speaker the House proceeded to the unfinished business of the last morning hour of the last session, which was the bill reported by Mr. Bland from the Committee on Mines and Mining, to utilize the product of the gold and silver mines.

Mr. Bland explained that in the present public condition of the country, he thought that would be the best course, saying that the commission appointed by Congress to inquire as to the desirability of the double standard of money could not make no report in time for action at this Congress. This bill should, therefore, pass the House, and when the commission did make its report, the bill could be accordingly amended in the Senate. He desired, however, to offer as a substitute for the bill originally reported, one providing that dollars of exactly the same size to time coined at the mints of the United States silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains standard silver to the dollar, as provided for in the act of January 18, 1837, and that said dollar shall be a legal tender for all debts, public and private, except where payment of gold coin is required by law.

Mr. Cox inquired whether it would not be wiser, in view of the present condition of the country, to postpone action until the commission had made its report. Though he might concur with the gentleman from Missouri [Bland], he did not desire to vote on so important measure without hearing the report of the commission.

Mr. Bland replied that if the bill were to be passed at all, the sooner it were acted on the better. The gentlemen who had filibustered against it last session had found, on their return home, that their constituents were not in harmony with them.

Mr. Monroe, of Ohio, proposed as a compromise on the part of the opponents of the bill that the demand for the previous question be seconded, and two hours debate on the bill permitted.

The proposition was agreed to, the debate to last two hours, one to-morrow and one on Thursday. The bill then went over.

Mr. Holman, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Postoffice Appropriation bill, which was made the special order for to-morrow after the morning hour. The bill recommends the appropriation of $32,983,125.

The Speaker laid before the House the resignation of Smith Ely, Jr., as Representative from the State of New York. Laid on the table.

The Speaker appointed as the committee to inquire as to whether frauds had been practiced in the election in New York, Brooklyn, New Jersey and Philadelphia, Messrs. Cox, of New York, Rice, of Ohio, Waddell, MacDougall and Wells, of Mississippi.

On motion of Mr. Wood, of New York, the House went into Committee of the Whole [Cox in the chair], for the purpose of distributing the President's message. This being done, the committee rose.

Mr. Hale, from the Commitee on Appropriations, reported the Fortification Appropriation bill, which was made the special order for Thursday next. The bill appropriates $250,000.

Adjourned.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Republicans Elect D. T. Corbin to the United States Senate—Arrival of Troops at Columbia.

COLUMBIA, December 12.—In the Democratic House to-day, a ballot was taken for a United States Senator. There were four-teen candidates, the votes ranged from one to eleven; the highest vote was cast for General M. C. Butler, of Edgefield.

Troops are arriving from Florida. Everything is quiet. There is no excitement whatever.

In the Republican House the ballot for United States Senator resulted in favor of United States District Attorney D. T. Corbin, who received fifty-eight votes out of sixty-six. Of the votes cast in the Senate Corbin received seventeen and Gary, Democrat, twelve votes. Corbin was declared elected. Both Houses adjourned.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Municipal Elections Yesterday.

BOSTON, December 12.—Prince, Democrat, was elected Mayor to-day by 2,141 majority, over Bradlee, Citizens', and Butterick, Prohibitionist. Worcester elects a Democratic Mayor by 280 majority.

Congressional Contest in the Fourth California District.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 12.—The Clerk of Monterey county, Fourth Congressional district, has reported to the Secretary of State a new set of election returns, made out in conformity with the original erroneous footing of the supervisors, which the Clerk had corrected in his first returns. The new returns give Wiginton, Democrat, one majority in the district. Last night writs were served on the Secretary of State, at the instance of Mr. Pacheco, the Republican candidate, prohibiting him from counting any other than the first returns, and directing him to count and certify the vote in accordance with the first returns.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Work Upon Appropriation Bills

Fortification and Postoffice Bills Reported.

THE WORK OF THE SESSION.

NO TIME FOR TARRIFF TINKERING.

Arrival of Messengers of Electoral College

Favorable Report on Colorado Case.

Opposition to Admission of the Member,

AND THE DEMOCRATIC REASON THEREFOR.

They Want to Exclude Enough Members of the Next House on This Precedent to Secure Them the Organization.

The Next House Republican on the Face of the Returns.

The Forthcoming Democratic Address.

Appointment of Marshal Hall Confirmed.

EMPLOYMENT OF TROOPS IN THE SOUTH.

Reply to the House Resolution of Inquiry.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12, 1876.

Appropriation Bills Reported.

The House Committee on Appropriations to-day reported the Fortification and Postoffice bills. The fortification bill is a reduction of nearly four millions. The committee are now engaged on the Consular and Diplomatic and Navy bills, which will be reported materially the same as the present year. The committee expect to have all the regular bills reported by the Christmas recess, which, it is expected, will begin about the 20th.

No Time for Tariff Tinkering.

The Committee of Ways and Means, during its session to-day, had an informal discussion of the prospects of the session for business. It was generally admitted that political investigations and discussions and the appropriation bills would consume all the time between this and March 4. This will quiet all apprehensions about a renewal of the effort to modify the tariff in the interests of Trade.

Receipt of Electoral Votes.

The messengers of the electoral colleges of Massachusetts, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia have delivered the vote of those States to the President of the Senate. These contain originals. Mail copies of about one-third of the States have been received, including Pennsylvania. The certificates of none of the contested States have been received.

The Colorado Member Gets a Favorable Report.

The House Judiciary Committee having agreed, by vote of seven to four, to report favorably on the admission of the Colorado Representative to a seat, will be vigorously contested in the House. The views expressed by Democratic members generally are opposed to admission. The position assumed by the majority in refusing the member a seat on a certificate as *prima facie* evidence of his right, thereby enabling him to participate in the election of Speaker, is that the action, if any, is likely to be sustained, and upon the precedent thus establishen the Democrats expect to refuse seats to enough members of the Forty-fifth Congress to change the political complexion of the House. The face of the returns, counting New Hampshire, indicate a Republican majority of one.

The Forthcoming Democratic Address.

The Democratic Advisory Committee held a meeting this afternoon at the Capitol, and to-night at Hewitt's residence. The subject of consideration was the address to be issued under the auspices of the Democratic National Committee. Quite a difference of opinion exists among the members of the committee as to the character of the address, some favoring a more free expression of views, while others believe a more conservative course will meet their purposes better. The committee adjourned to resume consideration of the address to-morrow, when it is expected it will be completed.

Remonetization of Silver.

Judge Kelley will submit his bill for the remonetization of the silver dollar and making it a legal tender for all amounts and purposes, as a substitute for the Bland bill. The indications are that Kelley's bill will be adopted.

Canards.

The President stated to-night that he had no knowledge of the ordering of Sheridan to New York and Hancock to San Francisco.

League Island Retained.

The report of the board appointed to inquire into the expediency of discontinuing any of the present navy yards favors the retention of League Island.

Marshal Hall.

John A. Hall was to-day confirmed as United States Marshal for the Western district of Pennsylvania.

Use of Troops in the South.

The Cabinet to-day considered the character of the reply to the recent resolution of the House of Representatives relative to the employment of United States forces in the Southern States at the recent elections. The reply will be prefaced by a concise statement of the condition of affairs in the States in which troops were used immediately prior to the elections and during the period of registration, when, it was alleged, that intimidation of Republican voters was carried on in certain portions of those States. It will cite numerous instances committed in those States as sustained by Congressional investigations and State authorities; will show that in every instance where the troops were sent it was in obedience to a constitutional call of the legally constituted authorities, and for the purpose of defending those States against threatened domestic violence against which the States were powerless to contend: will show that the troops have in no instance interfered with the local affairs of any State. The orders under which they acted will be given, and will show that they were solely directed to the preservation of the peace and protection of the State and local authorities. In the same connection the President will take occasion to express his views upon the political situation; will show that violence has been committed in some localities, and has either been justified or denied by those who could have prevented it.

United States Marshals.

The resolution of Senator Bayard relative to the number of United States marshals has reached the Department of Justice, and an answer cannot be returned for some weeks, as the inquiry will involve a correspondence with ever United States marshal in the country. All deputies are employed by the marshals themselves. The department simply keeps the accounts.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12, 1876.

POSTMASTERS APPOINTED.

The President sent the following nominations of postmasters for Pennsylvania to the Senate to-day: Miss Marietta Jones, Uniontown; J. N. Jones, Susquehanna; Jas. Woolsey, Shenandoah; James L. Dawson, Beaver Falls; Mary Rockafeller, Mechanicsburg; James M. Place, St. Petersburg.

THE CABINET

met to-day, all the members present. The meeting lasted over two hours. The only important question considered was the nature of the response to be made to the resolutions of Congress relative to the use of troops in the Southern States during the late election.

THE FORTIFICATION APPROPRIATION BILL, As reported, is a copy of last session's bill, except that the amount for sea coast armament is reduced $65,000.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The Senate confirmed the following nominations: Hiram Knowles, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Montana; James A. Dumont, of New York, Supervising Inspector General of Steamboats; John Hall, United States Marshal for the Western district of Pennsylvania; John C. Landreau, of Louisiana, United States Consul at Santiago de Cuba; Jonathan Larbelle, of Mississippi, Deputy First Comptroller of the Treasury; A. Loudon Snowden, Postmaster at Philadelphia; A. A. Harwood, Postmaster at Austin, Minn.; H. H. Griffiths, Receiver of Public Moneys at Des Moines, Iowa; Charles Rumley, Assayer of the Mint, Helena, Mont.; M. A. Maygendorf, Melter of the Mint, Helena; Collectors of Internal Revenue—O. P. Johnson, Second district Kentucky; R. C. Powers, Second district Mississippi; M. N. Brewster, Third district, Texas.

THE HOLIDAY ADJOURNMENT.

The general felling of the House is to adjourn at an early date till after the holidays, if the Senate will concur, or otherwise to meet to adjourn every third day until the House investigation committees shall have returned from the South.

THE POSTAL APPROPRIATION BILL,

As reported by the House Committee on Appropriations to-day, shows a reduction of about $1,300,000 from the amount of last session's postal bill, and a reduction of some $3,000,000 from the departmental estimates of the amount required for the next fiscal year. It is estimated that the postal receipts during the same period will be $30,645,165, and the bill therefore contemplates an actual appropriation of only $2,338,469. The appropriation for mail depredations and special agents is reduced from $150,000 granted last session to $120,500 for the next fiscal year. The amount for compensation of letter carriers is reduced from $1,900,000 to $1,750,000. That for inland mail transportation by stage routes, steamboats and all other means of transportation except railroads, is reduced from $6,737,850 to $6,000,000, and for railroad service from $9,100,000 to $9,000,000. The bill also provides for a reduction in the amount for salaries of railway postal clerks, route agents and other employees in that branch of the service. The appropriation for the transportation of foreign mails is increased from $220,000 to $230,000.

RELIEF FOR GRASSHOPPER SUFFERERS.

The bill introduced by Senator Windom for the relief of the settlers on public lands authorizes homestead or pre-emption settlers on Indian reservations where crops were destroyed or seriously injured by grasshoppers in the year 1876, to leave and be absent from said lands until the 1st of next July, or if the grasshoppers reappear next year, to the like destruction or injury of the crops, to remain away until July, 1878, without impairing their rights of homestead or pre-emption, if they afterwards resume and perfect their settlements. The bill also expressly extends their time for making final proof and payment to one year after the expiration of the term of absence above contemplated, and further more provides that all purposes of title and privileges above stated shall apply to and include settlers under the Timber Culture act of March, 1873.

NAVY YARDS TO BE ABANDONED.

The Board of Naval Officers appointed by authority of Congress for the examination of navy yards, has made a report recommending that the following places be abandoned and dispensed with: Navy yard at New London, naval ground at New Orleans and naval property at Brunswick, Georgia. The board says the harbor of Port Royal, South Carolina, is undoubtedly the finest harbor on the Southern coast, and presents several favorable sites for a naval station, all of which should be carefully studied and prepared before the best one can be determined. In the meantime, the board recommends that Port Royal be used as a temporary fitting and coaling station for vessels stationed in the West Indies.

NO FINANCIAL LEGISLATION THIS SESSION.

It is understood the Committee on Ways and Means have no important financial matters before them, and unless the Secretary of the Treasury makes some recommendation in that quarter, there will be no financial legislation attempted this session.

JERE. HARALSON WILL CONTEST.

Jere. Haralson, colored member of Congress from Alabama, says that having been re-elected but counted out, he intends to contest with every claimant who holds the certificate of election.

MR. HEWITT EXPLAINS HIS INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT.

The following is furnished by Hon. Abram S. Hewitt, addressed to the Washington agent of the Associated Press:

In yesterday's papers I find a dispatch from you, reciting a conversation with President Grant in reference to the unfortunate state of affairs in South Carolina, and my interviews with him in reference thereto. So far as South Carolina was concerned, the President stated that he had no confidence, but expressly stated that it was my liberty to communicate his views to the public. He did express confidence in regard to what he said of Louisiana affairs, and that confidence I have respected, although, as I have already stated to him, I believe the publication of his statements would do much to strengthen the public mind. In regard to South Carolina, the President stated that in his judgment not less than sixty-three members having certificates from the Secretary of State were eligible to organize the House and transact business. As this view accorded with my own, and as no conference was enjoined, I telegraphed it in the following language:

A. C. Haskell, Chairman, Charleston, S. C.:

I am able to say that neither House will be recognized by the President until it gets sixty-three members holding original certificates from the Returning Board.

ABRAM S. HEWITT.

My object in sending this dispatch was that I thought it would tend to allay the excitement in South Carolina, and prevent a collision between the people and troops, of which we were very apprehensive. On the 6th of December I received a reply which induced me to send the following telegram to the President:

To the President: I have received a reliable telegram from Columbia, stating that the sixty-third member holding a certificate from the Secretary of State has been sworn into the House presided over by Speaker Wallace, which is therefore organized in accordance with the requirements of the law as stated by you.

To the President: I have just received a later dispatch, saying that the Supreme Court of South Carolina has pronounced its judgment and declared the House presided over by W. H. Wallace to be the legally constituted House of Representatives, and that Mackey is a private person, not Speaker or in any respect an officer of the legislative body.

On the evening of the same day Senator Randolph suggested that he and I should call upon the President and ask him whether, under the circumstances, he could not see his way clear to order the withdrawal of the United States troops from Columbia, and recognize the House of Representatives so constituted with sixty-three members. The President granted us an interview, which began by my saying that I had sent him two telegrams from the House in reference to South Carolina affairs. The President at once replied that he had replied that he had not made any such statement; that he did not believe I had said he had done so, and that at any rate it was in obedience to a constitutional call of the legally constituted authorities, and for the purpose of defending those States against threatened domestic violence against which the States were powerless to contend: will show that the troops have in no instance interfered with the local affairs of any State. The orders under which they acted will be given, and will show that they were solely directed to the preservation of the peace and protection of the State and local authorities. In the same connection the President will take occasion to express his views upon the political situation; will show that violence has been committed in some localities, and has either been justified or denied by those who could have prevented it.

Election of United States Senator in Colorado.

DENVER, December 12.—The Legislature to-day elected Hon. Henry M. Teller United States Senator for six years, commencing next March.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

The Eastern Question.

INFORMAL MEETING.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 12.—At an informal meeting of plenipotentiaries, held at the Russian Embassay yesterday, there was an interchange of views which is understood to have been a favorable augury for peace as the result of the conference.

IMPORTANT POINTS SETTLED BY THE PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE.

LONDON, December 12.—A telegram from Paris announces that the following telegram from Constantinople was received there to day: At a preliminary meeting of the conference yesterday, under the presidency of General Ignatieff, the plenipotentiaries commenced by discussing questions concerning Servia and Montenegro, and agreed upon the following points, which will be officially sanctioned later: The conference admitted the expediency of the rectification of the Montenegrin frontier, to be determined by an international meeting at Ragusa. It would comprise an addition of eleven districts, all named, to Montenegro. The Prince of Montenegro would go to Constantinople to do homage to the Sultan for the new territories conceded him. The conference admitted that Servian territory should be evacuated by the Turks, prisoners on both sides be returned, and the armistice prolonged until the conclusion of peace. It was further agreed that the Valley of the Drina should be considered as the western frontier of Servia, this rectification implying the definitive cession of Little Zwornik to Servia. These first results confirm the expectation of an understanding between the Powers.

General Ignatieff, in his last interview with the Marquis of Salisbury, is reported to have declared that he would accept the occupation of Bulgaria by a neutral State, such as Belgium or Switzerland.

A FAIR UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RUSSIA AND ENGLAND—TURKEY WILL ADHERE TO THE TREATY OF PARIS.

LONDON, December 13.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* states that confirmation comes from Constantinople that quite an unexpected and marked approach has been effected between the views of Russia and England. This seems due, above all, to the assurances given by General Ignatieff, concerning the status of the Russian navy. In the face of this, it appears that Tuakey felt it necessary to make known its views. Several Vienna papers publish a sort of *communique* derived from sources which the privilege to be Turkish. Said *communique* declares that the Porte will adhere to the Trea

The Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1876.

OUR Democratic contemporary hails the attempted fraud in Oregon with unconcealed delight.

THE only man whom TILDEN, in his "still hunt," succeeded in buying, was found in his own party.

THE Post does not desire war, but it has decreed the immolation of TILDEN, and its neck is clothed with thunder.

IN ALL the cities of the Union there should be an examination made as to the means of exit and disposition of scholars in the public schools.

THE President's answer to the WITHERS resolution will probably create quite as much of a sensation as the address of SHERMAN and the other visitors to New Orleans.

THE foreign exports of Boston, last week, amounted to $949,169. The increase in the value of exports from that port thus far during the year is upwards of eleven millions of dollars.

THE Democrats at Washington must be very hard to manage when RANDALL has to threaten them with Fort Lafayette. He had better let them follow their natural instinct to keep out of harm's way as much as possible.

IT IS a good sign to see the hot-bloods at Washington boiling over with wrath and fury. It is only when they are quiet and undemonstrative that they may be suspected of brewing mischief. They rave and roar when they are unable to do anything else.

THE law of Oregon authorizes the electors for President to fill any vacancy in their body, occurring by death, resignation, "or otherwise." The law of Missouri does *not*. Hence the electors in Oregon had the right to fill vacancies and those in Missouri had none.

THE Southern Democrats do not want another war. They had enough of the last one. They depended on the Northern Democrats to help them then; and as they have no dependence but the same scabby lot, now, they are not afraid that any war will follow the present Democratic bluster.

THE Oregon TILDEN infamy seems of have been an attempt to bull the rebel bond market. Several transactions in Confederate bonds have taken place in London since the election, and bonds which hitherto have been worthless are now selling for three or four cents on the dollar.

ONE hundred years ago, yesterday, ADAM SMITH publish'd his work entitled "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations." Last evening a number of free traders of New York city celebrated the centennial anniversary of this publication by a dinner and speeches. ADAM SMITH was a very able Utopian.

THE free trade fanatics are again at work. An attempt is being made to organize a national non-partisan free trade league. The methods observed in the organization known as the Patrons of Husbandry are to be followed by this new league. Nearly every State in the Union has been organized. It behooves the friends of protection to be on their guard.

THE New York *Herald* says: "On the face of the certificates HAYES is elected, and we judge it probable that this result will stand. At all events, the burden of proof is on the side of the Democrats, with the *prima facie* case against them." It adds that it is "against all probability that they will succeed in making Mr. TILDEN the next President of the United States."

IT IS intimated that the details of the attempt to buy an electoral vote for TILDEN in South Carolina will be given to the public soon. It will implicate a New York agent, who was there under an assumed name; also the president of a railroad at Columbia. A clue to some of the remarkable proceedings of the Supreme Court of that State may possibly at the same time be furnished.

TRADE in England continues stagnant, and the prospect of war does not seem to have a tendency to improve it at present. Although no great failures have taken place lately, there are scores of small ones in all classes of society. The tension has been awful during the hard times of the last twelve months. As Christmas draws on, inflated credit bursts, and there is everywhere wailing and gnashing of teeth.

WHILE the danger from fires in theaters is being discussed, it may not be amiss to call attention to the same peril in the churches. In not a few churches the furnaces are located immediately under the stairs that lead into the auditorium. Should a fire occur—and at the fire is the danger—the main, and in most cases the only exit, would be cut off, involving the probable loss of hundreds of lives.

THE confidence of the people of the United States in the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States is now undisputed and indisputable, and no amendment of the Constitution should be contemplated which might lead to its disturbance. Such a result would inevitably follow an amendment conferring upon that court jurisdiction in matters of fact. Let no step be taken which can unsettle or disturb the existing homage paid by the American people to this august tribunal.

THE Congressional commission appointed last session to make a study and examination of the silver question, and the best method of specie resumption, and to report before the middle of next January, is expected to reassemble at Washington today. While it has not been definitely concluded what plan for resumption will be recommended by the majority of the commission, there is no doubt that the revival of the double standard and the prominence of silver will form the groundwork.

THE declaration of MORRISSEY that all bets on the Presidential election are "off" is a confession that, in MORRISSEY's judgment, that HAYES is elected. For either HAYES or TILDEN *must* be elected. If TILDEN were the successful man in MORRISSEY's judgment, or if he believed that TILDEN would be declared the winner, he never would have agreed to give up the stakes in his hands. He knows that HAYES is elected, but he wants to save the Democrats their money, and so he declares the bets "off."

THE New York stock market is extremely dull. Enormous sales are reported, but hardly half of them are genuine. It is stated that the stock business has been vastly overdone, and that hundreds of young men who get a living hanging around the exchange have been driven to other resorts. Bank shares have been greatly flattened under the risks of protested paper and defalcation. As the new year approaches, a serious question will probably come before the directors as to the possibility of dividends.

THE foreign commerce of New York, last week was: Merchandise imports, $3,862,598; exports of produce, $6,934,676, and specie exports, $462,132. The total imports since January 1, this year, were $295,487,068, against $305,574,014 for the same period last year, and $370,677,886 in 1874. The total exports of produce since January 1, this year, were $253,328,675, against $238,373,917 for the corresponding period last year, and $269,281,930 in 1874, and the total exports of specie during the same period were $42,640,802, against $67,474,823, for the corresponding period last year, and $55,592,133 in 1874.

THE new paralysis that has fallen upon the business of the country is the legitimate result of Democratic bluster and threats of revolution. If the Democratic party would but learn to submit to the public will, and would cease to threaten fire and bloodshed whenever caught in the act of fraud, the country would not be subjected to these steadily recurring moods of business depression. The fall season opened with an encouraging outlook on the commercial horizon; and if this encouragement has been dissipated, it is owing solely to the refusal of the Democracy to submit peacefully to the verdict of the ballot-box.

THE NEXT STEP IN PRISON REFORM.

We imprison men to punish and reform. If punishment reformed the convict and deterred others from crime, all the ends of imprisonment would be secured by the imprisonment itself. But it has long been known that punishment is not reformatory, and that it has little deterrent power. To reform men in prison, we have found that we must use the same means which we use to reform those out of prison. No man is ever reformed by others. He must reform himself; and the penal system which gives the criminal the largest number of opportunities, and brings to bear on him the best and strongest motives to reform, is the best system.

We have now in operation, in all our penitentiaries, the advantages of work, instruction and worship. In the more advanced prisons, trades may be learned, overwork may be done by prisoners for their own profit when released, terms of sentence may be shortened by good conduct and by industry; a bonus is offered to each released convict, and even a pardon may be looked forward to by those who have been most exemplary as prisoners. All these have been incentives in our prisons, and the prisoners have come more and more under their influence. They have come to see that they can and must work out their own release; that their destiny is in their own hands, and that the prison officers are there to help them make the most of their opportunities. But we have not yet secured all the good results that penologists have aimed at. We want to secure so large a percentage of reformed convicts, and such an established degree of reformation, that the community shall willingly receive and readily absorb into the labor market the released convict—that a reformed prisoner shall be regarded with as much favor and sympathy as are accorded to a reformed drunkard.

The community as yet does not so regard the convict. "A jail bird" is speckled, and everybody pecks at him—and not much wonder. Society put him into prison because he was its enemy and it does not believe that imprisonment has made him a friend. From society to the penitentiary is never a single step, and from the penitentiary to society one step is not enough. The change is too great and too sudden for both parties. We are not prepared for him, and he is not prepared for us. Hence suspicions and coldness and repulsion on our part, and shame and discouragement and relapse on his part. What shall we do? The answer to this question is: an *intermediate prison*—something between a workhouse and a penitentiary.

Fifteen years of unexampled success in Ireland has established its efficiency. It has proved to be the convict's training school for a safe and ready entrance into honest society. As he wins his way from the penitentiary to the intermediate prison by his good conduct, his application and his work, so he wins his way from the intermediate prison back to society, by the same good conduct and application and work—when it is seen that these things have become habits—the habit of industry, the habit of self-control, the habit of self-reliance and the habit of self-respect.

In the intermediate prison, it will be seen, only the best convicts are found, because they can only get there through their good conduct as prisoners, and their industry and progress while in the penitentiary. Here classification of prisoners is more complete, and therefore competition is more active and supervision is more individual. The convict is treated more as a man and less as a prisoner. He is not locked up, and there is no physical force used to keep him. His supervisor works with him; his liberty is extended, and he learns to use his freedom by having it. He learns to resist temptation because on that depends his going forward towards entire freedom or going back again to imprisonment. As he is soon to enter society, he is fitted for it. There are no marks, no training in classes. He is put on his good behavior. He gets his instruction according to his tastes. He is his own man and has every inducement not to abuse his liberty—so nearly achieved. For such convicts there has been found no difficulty in obtaining work, and the number of relapses has never been such as to shake the faith of the community in the system.

But can we engraft the intermediate prison on our present system? We can, for it is already an inherent part of the Pennsylvania system, and only needs developing. We have the solitary cell for punishment; we have congregate work, worship and instruction; we have commutation for good conduct. We only need a separate building into which the best of our prisoners may be promoted, and where, under "individualization" of treatment, the convict shall not merely be guarded from the contamination of his fellow-convict—now a prisoner rather than a criminal—but where he is individualized in order to learn to take care of himself, whether among criminals or honest folk.

This question is of present practical moment, because both our penitentiaries have for some years been not only crowded to excess, but crowded in the face of the statutes—in the face of the best results—sanitary, economic and reformatory. We must soon have another penitentiary, at a cost of $2,000,000; or provide something better for the prisoner, and better and cheaper for the State—an intermediate prison. The Board of State Charities is now exercised with this question, and we believe is to meet this week to discuss it. The old House of Refuge grounds and buildings, although not owned by the State, have been practically under its control, and might readily be obtained and converted into an intermediate prison. The project seems altogether feasible, and is worthy of earnest consideration.

RESOLVED to its last analysis, the Eastern complication, as between England and Russia, seems to be that should a Russian force cross the river Pruth, with hostile views, such an act will be regarded by Great Britain as a *casus belli*. Should war between these Powers break out, there are good grounds for believing that Austria and Roumania would follow the lead of England. Indeed, it is said that those Powers have already intimated, through the usual underhand channels of diplomacy, that if England will regard the crossing of the Pruth by Russia as an act of war, they may be relied on. In this case the campaign would probably open on that famous river, with the Austrians, Roumanians and Turks opposing Russia on land, and the English gunboats at work on the water. The Turks with very little assistance could hold the line of the Danube. English troops would garrison the lines of Constantinople, while the Turkish troops went to the front. In Asia, England would have to fight in the open. She would have to keep command of the Valley of the Euphrates. For this a large force would be required, and it would be augmented by Mohammedan troops from India. English war ships would also operate in the Black sea and the Baltic, and then with the strategy of war by land and sea would come the strategy of policy. English agents would be sent to stir up the Poles, the Georgians and the Circassians, who do not require much show of help or sympathy to rebel against their Russian masters. Khiva, moreover, would probably be in open revolt in a month, if she were supplied with means. Whether these agencies would result in any material disturbance of the great Northern Empire, remains yet to be seen.

THE burning of the Brooklyn Theater, which will long stand in solitary and unequaled horror, forcibly reminds one that Brooklyn's chief distinction is found in the characteristic of misfortune. A century ago the American arms there incurred a defeat hardly equaled in our history for slaughter. There, too, transpired the greatest scandal known in the chronicles of American society, one whose pollution not only defiled a vast congregation, but permeated the circles of literature and journalism with an immense breadth of pestilential poison. All over the world Brooklyn became notorious for its chronicle of intrigue, in which genius and apparent piety were degraded by the basest of passions. Hardly had the atmosphere been cleared when a horror of untold and almost incredible dimensions brought Brooklyn again before the world, its infamy thus changed for the slaughter of a multitude which perished by a most cruel and heartrending fate. What is that city coming to?

THE attempt of the Democratic House of Representatives to exclude the Representative from Colorado, is preliminary to and a part of the plan to exclude the vote of Colorado from the count of the electoral vote. The last session of this very Congress passed the bill for the admission of Colorado. It fixed the time for holding a Constitutional Convention, as well as the time for holding an election for a member of Congress, if the Constitution was adopted. It also specified the time and manner of choosing Presidential electors; and having done all this, it now seeks to thrust Colorado aside, as being still outside the Union, because she voted for HAYES. Any trick will do, so that it secures TILDEN's election. Fortunately, the bill authorized the President, when all its conditions were complied with, to declare Colorado a State in the Union; and that having been done, it is not now in the power of the House to undo what the law has authorized to be done.

"DUKE" GWIN was one of the instruments TILDEN employed to corrupt the suffrage of the people of Oregon. On the 11th of November the "Duke" telegraphed to Senator KELLY, "Spare no exertions or expense in looking up your State; I will be responsible and rely upon you." The sequel of the plot in which these conspirators were engaged is now before the public. GWIN hurried to the Pacific after sending the dispatch, and they are now expecting Oregon to furnish the vote needed to make TILDEN President. But the scheme will fail. TILDEN may be an adept at wrecking a railroad corporation and appropriating its securities, or at planning a scheme to stuff the ballot-boxes of New York; but he has completely bungled this business of stealing an electoral vote from a Republican State.

ONE feature of the Democratic policy evidently is to prepare for calling a special session of the Forty-fifth Congress. The evidence of this is in the action of the House Appropriation Committee. That committee reported the Pension bill only, and will report no more until the complications in regard to the electoral vote are settled. This has been done simply as a piece of pettifogging, to conciliate the soldier element, but the great appropriation bills are not likely to be settled until after the results of the electoral count are known. The present outlook, therefore, is that the main business of the session, at least until February is well advanced, will be the political discussions and Presidential movements which characterized the initial day of the session.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Make the scenery non-inflammable.

England trembles in fear of the potato bug.

Euphemism. Tramps now call themselves general tourists.

General Corse wants to instruct General Sherman in Hardee's tactics.

The Northern Democratic press is fighting fiercely—with its mouth.

Ice velocipedes are to be this winter's sensation. Will they have icecycles for wheels?

Place aux dames. Female burglars are doing considerable business in New York.

This weather is well calculated to cool the ardor of ye Democracy what waileth for "wah."

By the effect of the hard times the population of charitable institutions all over the country is largely increased.

Krupp, the great German cannon-maker, has 15,500 men in his employ. What a king of bulldozers he would make.

"All you'uns who want ter come down and help we'uns had better send you'uns names" to the editor of the *Post*.

The Democratic press issues sulphurous smoke out of its nostrils, while its eyes have been like coals of fire for some time past.

The drama "Our Boys" has been played for the six-hundreth time, without interruption, in London. This is by far the longest run on record.

Cronin, the quorum from Oregon, spoiled all by his insufferable stupidity. The trick needed to be played fine. He was a bungler, and "put his foot in it."

The Dominion Government has issued an order forbidding the running of railroad trains in Canada on the Sabbath except by direct order of the Government.

The whooping cough is proving more terrible to the war-whoops of the Modocs than the United States troops; large numbers have died recently from that disease.

Four thousand demands for space have already been addressed to the officials of the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1878 by manufacturers and tradesmen of all nationalities.

The *Scientific American* remarks that the successful air ship of the future will not contain a gas bag. It is therefore evident that it will not be propelled by the editor of the *Post*.

An immense Indian mound has just been discovered near Saudusky, Ohio. The remains of hundreds of Indians, buried, no one knows how many years since, have been exhumed.

Poste! The grasshoppers in 1875 set back Minnesota to the following extent: Number of bushels of wheat destroyed, 2,024,972; oats, 1,127,780; corn, 790,984, and potatoes, 130,886.

Whisky left in a cask for seven years will lose its fusil oil; and a critic says that none less than seven years old should be consumed—the consideration of which should consume another seven years.

During the six months of the Centennial season, closing November 10, 1876, nearly three million passengers were carried by the Erie Railway, without a single accident or injury, or the loss of a piece of baggage.

A singular petrification has been found in Manlius village, New York. It exactly resembles in form a huge carpet-bag, with handles and all complete. The Syracuse papers are trying to make out that it is the carpet-bag of the Cardiff Giant.

The following is a store sign as copied verbatim from the original in a mining town of this State:

> Bibles, Blackball, Butter;
> Testaments, Tar, Treacle;
> Godly Books and Gimblets;
> Condensed Eggs and Castor Oil,
> For sale hear!

The most rapid silver coinage of the past year was at the rate of $32,880,400 per annum, including trade dollars. At that rate the silver coinage would not in four years exceed $131,521,840, and to equal the silver volume of France and Germany, $160,000,000, would require five years.

Hard times do not seem to affect the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the South, which continue improving as usual. New cotton mills have just been started at Atlanta, Nashville and New Orleans, and all through the South the planters and farmers are introducing improved machinery and farm implements.

So kind. Sir William Thompson (with a *p*) says that in the United States "there is the truest scientific spirit and devotion, the originality, the inventiveness, the patient, persevering thoroughness of work, the appreciativeness and the generous open-mindedness and sympathy from which the great things of science come."

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular with regard to the execution of bonds by transportation companies as carriers of dutiable merchandise, and prescribing that in lieu of securities there may be deposited with the United States Treasurer registered bonds of any authorized issue of the Government of equal amount to the prescribed penalty of the transportation bond.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

HISTORY. FRENCH LITERATURE. By Henry Van Laun. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

This belongs to a class of works that may be read again and again, and always with interest, as it contains much that will be new to many readers, and will also furnish information that lovers of historical reading desire to know. The author, Mr. Van Laun, of Edinburgh, was the able translator of H. Taine's principal works. The work treats of "French Literature" from its origin to the Renaissance. It is divided into several sections, often an instruction, covering the whole of French literature to the present day. The first book treats of the origin of the French nation as it relates to the Celts and the Iberians; remains of Celtic poetry; influences of Christianity, the Teachers and Chroniclers The second treats of feudal society and the Provencal party. At the close the Renaissance follows, ending with Troubadours, and representing the writers of the thirteenth century. This section embraces the prose writers, the Church and the Drama, Miracles, Comedies and Tracts. The third book treats of the Renaissance, which is a fine picture of its satire, its moralists and its quarrels. Rabelais, Montaigu and Calvin and the Reformation are presented in graphic words. Take the work throughout, it is worthy of much praise and a large circulation, and no public or private library is complete without it.

WINWOOD CLIFF; OR, OSCAR, the SAILOR'S SON. By Daniel Wise, D.D., author of "Hollywood Series" etc. Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

A story of decided merit, and is pure and high toned, as are all the writings of this distinguished author. It presents the temptations and vicissitudes of a boy who strove to do right, but of strong impulses. The characters are largely drawn from life, and both plot and characters are admirably managed. The moral of the story inculcates honesty, virtue, industry, perseverence and kindness, and its reading is calculated to elevate youthful readers.

DAISY TRAVERS; OR, THE GIRLS OF HIVE HILL. By Adelaide F. Samuels, author of "Dick and Daisy Series," etc. Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

We have in this story beautifully illustrated the good that may be accomplished by individual effort, in the case of a young girl who labored much towards sustaining and caring for poor neglected children. Through the tact and lovely elements of the character of Daisy, much good was accomplished at Hive Hall, and the heroine's self-abnegation appears everywhere in the story. It is a capital book for young people.

RODDY'S IDEAL. By Helen Kendrick Johnson, author of Roddy's Romance" and "Roddy's Reality." Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

Perhaps the crowning feature of excellence in this and the two preceding volumes by this lady author is the absence of artistic effect and her complete identification with her little heroines. This series is among the most delightful of juvenile books and worthy to grace the family circle for purity of sentiment and religious element that modestly come to the surface and without the blazoning of cant.

ELBOW ROOM. A novel without a plot. By Max Adeler, author of "Out of the Hurly-Burly," etc. Published by J. M. Stoddart & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by Mr. J. B. Stewart, general agent for this city and district, office 10½ Sixth street, Pittsburgh.

"Max Adeler" (Mr. Charles Heber Clarke) belongs to the Mark Twain class of humorists, with the exception that he appears to be in the hey-day of his glory, while Josh Billings, the Danbury man and others are on the wane. The plan of the book is unlike a novel, but a skilful chain of stories and sketches of character, bound together by a golden thread, and forming a well-rounded book. Lovers of fun of the rollicking type, who wish to pass evenings without feeling the tread of old Time, will find this book brimfull of incidents and jokes. Readers will enjoy Captain Binn's project for stirring up mules on the towpath by galvanic batteries; the account of William Bradley's "Patent Imperishable Army Sausage;" the story of "Barker's Carbolic Disinfecting Door Mat;" the account of Peter Lamb's interview with Rev. Dr. Dox, the deaf preacher, on the subject of Moses' Mother-in-Law; Captain Hubbs' account of the Cannibals, as given to a young man ambitious to become a missionary; the story of Bill Slocum and the Twins; the report of the eccentric behavior of Mr. Murphy, keeper of the Millburg Jail; or Major Slott's interview with the inventor of "Partridge's Patent Atmospheric Refresher." Get the book and be amused.

AN ALPHABET IN FINANCE. By Graham McAdam. With Introduction by R. R. Bowker. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

The character of this excellent work is well set forth on the title page, as being "a simple statement of permanent principles and their application to questions of the day." It is the kind of book that should be heartily welcomed, as it presents facts and unfailing laws relating to the principles of money, without dictating harsh means to carry out personal views. The current questions of resumption, paper-money, the silver scheme, fractional currency, banking, the three sixty-five bond scheme, &c., are treated in a plain and substantial manner.

OCTAVIUS BROOKS FROTHINGHAM AND THE NEW FAITH. By Edward C. Stedman. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

Persons curious to read the tenets of the new faith, promulgated by Dr. Frothingham, and a very lucid description of this noted radical, may be gratified by reading this little treatise of 50pp. No one doubts the learning and ability of Dr. Frothingham, but the lack of orthodox elements will deter many from indorsing his views.

PHILIP NOLAN'S FRIENDS: A story of the Change of the Western Empire. By Edward E. Hale, author of "A Man Without a Country," etc. Published by Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh. Illustrated.

No person who has read "A Man Without a Country" need to be told that this story is written in Mr. Hale's inimitable style, though of a higher range of fiction and more of a historical type. The rapid movements of the author, from one stage to another of the story, is a good type of Yankee character. It presents an interesting episode in our history as a nation, when the Southwest, early in the present century, was in a transition state —its allegiance divided between France, Spain and the United States. The habits of the Indians, their intercourse with whites, frontier life, &c. "Philip Nolan," the heroic Inez and other characters, are drawn with consumate skill. It is a story that will be widely read.

THE BOY EMIGRANTS. By Noah Brooks. Published by Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh.

A delightful book for young people, which belongs to that class of stories that will arouse the spirit of adventure in boys. It is as instructive as entertaining. "The Boy Emigrants" is a story of a party of young gold seekers on the overland emigrant route and in California, during the early rush to the mines. Since the author was himself an emigrant of this description, the scenes and incidents are drawn from life. The style is vigorous and healthful, and many of the scenes pictured are rugged and full of grandeur. The illustrations add to its interest.

THE LEGEND OF MAIDEN ROCK. By Robert Sidney Wayland. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh.

Mr. Wayland has woven in blank verse a touching Indian tradition, in which the story of Nona, who discarded the love of the brave Saunup and chose Moren, who was under the ban of his tribe, is vividly pictured. Ountum, her father, chief of the tribe, tries to force her to marry Saunup, but she rebels, and after a series of trials and struggles, throws herself from a high rock and is killed. We quote the decree of the chief:

"So Ountum spoke and they obeyed his voice.
As from the room they all retired with speed.
Then turned he to his daughter, 'How is this?'
I left my Nona ill, and she is here;
Up from that posture there and get you home.
Where women should be. Let no child of mine
Ask me for mercy in a case like this."

PERSONAL.

"Dickens' Dutchman," Charles Langheimer, has received sentence to another term of imprisonment, this time for three months.

A tough old schoolmaster has just died in Yorkshire, England, at the age of eighty-four. It is calculated that in forty-five years, during which he has taught school, he had walked 115,816 miles.

The remains of a balloon have recently been found on the coast of Ireland. In the car were human bones—an incomplete skeleton—and a leather traveling bag, containing papers so mouldy as not to be deciphered.

The Wesleyan University seniors have left the poetess out in the cold. The young lady who was fairly elected class poet has been forced to resign, and a young man has been chosen in her place This savors more of class politics than of chivalry.

Helmbold, the cracked druggist, has had another "escape." His wife obtained a decree of divorce a few days ago and the Doctor, instead of being put out about it, immediately had cards of invitation to a grand jollification at Delmonico's struck off, which he had scattered all over the country.

All the New Jersey prize fighters are employed in the State prison at Trenton, except "Fiddler" Neary, who is pining in his cell and anxious to be set at work. Clark is nailing on heels, Collyer doing out heel pieces, Weeden finishing sole bottoms, and "Spring Dick" passes his time at work on a sewing machine.

Shakespeare evidently did not admire home subjects, for of the thirty-six plays found in his works only eleven are limited to Great Britain. Though never off his native soil, he appears to have been as familiar with widely separated nations as he was with the human passions. His reading had also been of a very extended character, for he handles history with a grand mastership. For a man of his day his attainments certainly were wonderful, especially when we remember that he died on his fifty-third birthday—being just fifty-two. As a matter of curious interest we notice the broad geographical reach of his genius by enumerating his foreign plays and their locality.

The Tempest—an island near Naples.
The Two Gentlemen of Verona—Italy.
Twelfth Night—Illyria.
Measure for Measure—Vienna.
Much Ado About Nothing—Messina.
Mid Summer Night's Dream—Athens.
Love's Labor Lost—Navarre.
Merchant of Venice—Italy.
King Henry Sixth—France and England.
All's Well that Ends Well—Italy and France.
Taming the Shrew—Athens.
Winter's Tale—Sicily.
Troilus and Cressida—Troy.
Cymbeline—Britain and Italy.
Julius Cæsar—Rome.
Antony and Cleopatra—Syria and Egypt.
Titus Andronicus—Rome.
Pericles, Prince of Tyre—Several countries.
Romeo and Juliet—Verona, Italy.
Hamlet—Denmark.
Othello—Venice and Cyprus.
King John—France and England.

He is generally called the "bard of Avon," but it is evident that he is the bard of the whole world, except America. It seems that when he met a good story or a thrilling piece of history he at once dramatized it. What a subject Tilden would have made for such a master. It is a great pity that so fine a theme is lost.

THE Chief of the Bureau of Statistics at Washington has just completed the foreign trade of the United States for the month of October, and the result compares as follows with last year. The results of the trade of the first ten months reduced to gold values of the calendar year 1876, and of the corresponding months of 1875, are also added:

	October— 1876.	1875.
Goods imported	$ 34,296,000	$ 36,818,000
Less re-exported	688,000	1,259,000
For United States markets	$ 33,610,000	$ 35,559,000
Domestic exports	13,258,000	20,741,000
Balance in favor of U. S.	$ 20,348,000	$ 15,175,000
Specie imports	$5,568,000	$2,630,000
Specie exports	2,631,000	3,725,000
Difference	$ 2,923,000	$1,095,000
	Ten Months.	
	1876.	1875.
Goods imported	$294,533,000	$341,042,000
Less re-exported	11,546,000	10,985,000
For United States markets	$282,987,000	$323,957,000
Domestic exports	146,855,000	188,186,000
Difference	$93,868,000	$45,769,000
Net outgo of specie	54,881,000	33,943,000
Balance in favor of United States	$128,749,000	$18,173,000

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Advertising Agents,
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8. They examine all papers, note all omissions or irregularities, secure the strict fulfillment of every stipulation of the order, and submit full files for the inspection of the advertiser.
9. They give the advertiser the full benefit of the facilities and of their supervision *without charge*, a commission being paid by the publishers.
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This truly valuable tonic has been so thoroughly tested by all classes of the community that it is now deemed indispensable as a Tonic medicine. It coats but little, purifies the blood and gives tone to the stomach, removes the system all prolonging life. Everybody should have it. For the cure of Weak Stomachs, General Debility, Indigestion, Diseases of the Stomach, and for all cases requiring a tonic. This wine includes the most agreeable and efficient Salt of Iron we possess—Citrate of Magnetic Oxide, combined with the most energetic of vegetable tonics—Yellow Peruvian Bark.
Do you want something to strengthen you?
Do you want a good appetite?
Do you want to get rid of nervousness?
Do you want energy?
Do you want to sleep well?
Do you want to build up your constitution?
Do you want to feel well?
Do you want a brisk and vigorous feeling?
If you do, try KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON.
I only ask a trial of this valuable tonic.
Beware of counterfeits, as Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron is the only sure and effectual remedy in the known world for the permanent cure of Dyspepsia and Debility, and as there are a number of imitations offered to the public, I would caution the community to purchase none but the genuine article, manufactured by E. F. Kunkel, and having his stamp on the cork of every bottle. The very fact that others are attempting to imitate this valuable remedy, proves its worth and speaks volumes in its favor. Sold only in $1 bottles. Sold by druggists and dealers everywhere.
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Head and all complete, in two hours. No fee till head passes. Seat, Pin and Stomach Worms removed by Dr. Kunkel, 230 North Ninth street, Philadelphia, Pa. Send for circular. For removing all ordinary worms, call on your druggist and get a bottle of KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price, $1. MWF
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JAM TEVENSON.....Secreta y
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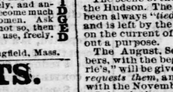
Chas. G. Milnor, Secretary and Treasurer.
SOLICITOR—John B. Bailey.

DISSOLUTION.

THE PARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE EXISTING under the firm name of BECKERT & GERWIG is this day dissolved by limitation, C. W. GERWIG retiring. The business will be continued by C. BECKERT, who will pay all debts and collect all accounts.
November 25, 1876.



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FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 12, 1876.

The movement toward contraction of the currency which has been going on for the past two years has attained totals of no slight magnitude, as will be seen in an examination of the recent report of the Comptroller of the Currency, as to the fluctuations in the currency. On the 30th of June, 1874, when the act in relation to national banks was passed, the amount of bank notes outstanding was $349,804,182. From that date to the passage of the next act, January 14, 1875, the circulation was increased $1,967,268. Since that date, to December 1, 1876, $43,978,148 in national bank notes has been redeemed and retired, and $7,085,731 has been surrendered. In the same period new issues of national bank notes to the amount of $18,861,250 have been made, the amount outstanding at the last named date being $319,658,821, a decrease of $32,202,629 since January 14, 1875. During the period covered by the above statements there has been a similar diminution in the amount of legal tenders in circulation. In June, 1874, the amount outstanding was $382,000,000. On the 1st of December, 1876, the amount was only $366,911,000, a decrease of more than $15,000,000. This decrease, aggregating over $47,000,000, has not caused any stringency in monetary affairs. On the contrary, there are millions of capital lying idle in the banks and seeking employment at from 4 to 7 per cent. wherever it can be found consistently with safety. When a more active movement in business and manufacturing circles shall set in, it is questionable whether the present volume of currency will prove sufficient for business requirements. As long as trade is conducted in the present cautious manner, however, we may expect the money market to remain quiet and the movement of contraction in the currency to continue.

—The table of railway earnings for November shows that the total earnings of eighteen Western roads were $5,967,482, a decrease of $159,367 from the earnings of the same roads in November, 1875, eleven of the eighteen roads showing a decrease. The same roads report gross earnings from January 1 to November 30 of $61,640,675, an increase of $3,674,860 over the same period of 1875. Reports of fourteen additional roads for October show an increase of $624,697 since January 1st. These reports are mainly of Western roads whose earnings have not been much affected by the railway war. If the trunk lines reported their earnings, it is doubtful whether any increase would be shown over last year. In the reports for November the Central Pacific and the roads west and south west from St. Louis are the principal ones which show a material increase in earnings. The continuation of low rates on the trunk lines between the West and the Atlantic has probably affected more or less the earnings of the Illinois Central and all other roads east of the Mississippi river.

—A valuable suggestion for the reports of national banks is made by the notice of a feature in Molson's Bank, of Montreal, an establishment of two millions capital, three millions of deposits, a million circulation, five and a half millions of loans, with fourteen branches in Canada, and agencies all over the United States and Great Britain. The feature to which we allude is the way of classifying its loans which is not precisely after the method of our bank returns. The loans are divided into loans upon bonds, debentures, &c., loans on bank stocks, loans to corporations, bills discounted and current, bills discounted past due secured; bills discounted past due and not secured. It is easy to see that such a classification affords a much clearer insight into the actual state of a bank's resources from loans than the present method of lumping them all into one total of loans and discounts. The object of national bank reports is to afford a clear view of their actual condition, and to provide a check against unsafe banking which such publicity insures. These objects would be much more thoroughly served by the adoption of such a classification of the loans as that indicated above.

—The New York *Times*, in reviewing the course of the stock market, has the following with reference to the state of the railway war:

On Friday the market was temporarily strengthened for certain stocks by a belief that there was a strong probability of the railroad war being settled, and that holders of the shares in question took advantage of the opportunity thus offered to get rid of as much of their holdings as the market would take, the consequence of course being a decline. Similar tactics were practised on Saturday and Monday with the same results—an advance in the early dealings, followed by a reaction. In view of the fact that Commodore Vanderbilt has practically declared himself to the merchants of New York not to yield on the mileage question, and that President Garrett insists on a concession to that point as an indispensable condition of any term so settlement, it is difficult to see how the difference between the trunk lines are to be accommodated.

—The rough profits of the Suez Canal Company for 1876 are unofficially estimated at 40,000,000. Of this sum £523,160 will be at once absorbed by interest on loans, leaving £496 840 available for dividend upon the share capital. The £496,840 must be added £83,920 brought forward from 1875, making the definite dividable balance £582,760. On of this balance it would be practicable to pay a dividend of 10s per share in the company at the rate of six and a half per cent. per annum, but it is anticipated that the actual dividend for the year will not exceed six per cent. per annum.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 12, 1876.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	107¼	107¼	107⅛	107¼	107¼
U. S. 6s, 1881, coup	115	115⅛	.....	115	115
5-20's, 1865	108⅛	108⅛	.....	107⅞	.....
5-20's, 1865, new	111⅛	111⅛	.....	111	.....
5-20's, 1867, registered	111⅞	111⅞	.....	111⅝	.....
5-20's, 1867	112⅝	112⅝	.....	112⅜	.....
5-20's, 1868, registered	112⅝	112⅝	.....	112⅜	.....
5-20's, 1868	112⅝	112⅝	.....	112⅜	.....
10-40's	111⅛	111⅛	.....	111	.....
10-40's, coupons	111	111⅛	.....	111	.....
Currency 6's	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 5 per cents	106⅜	106⅜	.....	106⅜	106⅜
Western Union Tel	72¾	72¾	.....	72¾	72¾
Quicksilver	12	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pacific Mail	22¾	22¾	.....	22¾	22¾
Pasama	127	.....	.....	.....	.....
Adams Express	93	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wells-Fargo Express	89	.....	.....	.....	.....
American Express	52½	.....	.....	.....	.....
United States Express	50	.....	.....	.....	.....
New York Central	104½	104½	104½	104½	.....
Erie	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Michigan Cent al	43¼	.....	42¾	43⅛	.....
Michigan Southern	67	.....	66¾	66¾	.....
Illinois Central	67	.....	67	.....	.....
Cleve. and Pittsburgh	89	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chicago & Northwest	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. preferred	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rock Island	98¾	.....	98¾	98¾	.....
St. Paul common	19⅜	.....	19⅜	19⅜	.....
Do. preferred	51⅝	.....	51⅝	51⅝	.....
Wabash, comm n	9	.....	9	9	.....
Fo t Wayne	101¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ohio and Mississippi	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Union Pacific	59	.....	59	59	.....
Harlem	133	.....	.....	133	.....
New Jersey Central	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hannibal & St. Joe	12¾	.....	.....	.....	.....
Iron Mountain	10	.....	.....	.....	.....
C., C. & I., C	2¾	.....	2¾	.....	.....
Missouri Pacific	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Del., Lack. & West	77	.....	77	77⅛	.....
South Carolinas, Apr	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South Carolinas, Oct	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Missouri 6's	106	.....	106	105⅞	.....

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	67	67½	100
Reading	.....	.....	19
United Co. of N. Jers	136	137	.....
Pgh., Ft. Wa. & Buffalo	83	83½	.....
Lehigh Valley	47¼	.....	.....
Allegheny Valley	.....	.....	1015
Empire Transportation	.....	.....	50
P., C. & St. L. m. b	85¾	.....	.....

(By Associated Press.)
Gold Closed at 107

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 12.—Money 4@6 per cent, closing at 4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 5@7 per cent. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $554,000. Customs receipts $312,000. Clearings $24,000,000. Sterling 482@483.

Gold opened at 107¼, advance to 107⅜, and closed at 107⅜. Carrying rates 3@5 per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds active, strong and higher. Railroad bonds strong. State securities quiet. Stocks, with the exception of Illinois Central, which was weak and lower, were dull and without prominent feature. Transactions only 50,000 shares, of which 3,600 were Western Union, 2,000 Rock Island, 5,000 St. Paul, 29,000 Lake Store, 3,000 New York Central and 4,500 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western. The following were the closing quotations:

Stocks.		Stocks.	
Western Union Tel	72¾	Rock Island	98⅝
Quicksilver	12	St. Paul	19⅜
Do. preferred	32	Do. preferred	51⅝
Pacific Mail	22¾	Toledo & Wabash	12½
Mariposa	.....	Do. preferred	25
Do. preferred	35	Adams Express	93
Adams Express	93	Wells-Fargo Ex	89
Wells-Fargo Ex	89	Terre Haute	3
American Ex	52	Do. preferred	15
United States Ex	50	Chicago & Alton	98¾
New York Central	104½	Do. preferred	120
Erie	8¾	Del. & Lack	77
Do. preferred	15	Pacific R. R. Sixes	107
Harlem	137	Missouri Pacific	23
Do. preferred	137	Atlantic & Pac. pref	2
Michigan Central	43¼	Indiana Central	9
Panama	.....	Han. & Quincy	110
Lake Shore	66¾	Central Pacific	93
Illinois Central	66¾	Union Pac. stock	58¾
Cleve. and Pittsb	89	Central Pac. bonds	85
Northwestern	35¾	Union Pac. bonds	91½
Do. preferred	57¾	Do. land grants	84½
C., C. & I	2¾	Do. S. F. bonds	78½
N. J. Central	104		

GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	116½	New 5's	106¾
5-20's, 1865	108⅛	New 4½'s	106¾
5-20's, 1865, new	111⅞	10-40's, registered	112
5-20's, 1867	112⅝	10-40's, coupons	112⅝
5-20's, 1868	112⅝	Currency 6's	121
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee, old	48	Virginia, old	29
Tennessee, new	42¾	Missouri 6's	105¾
Virginia, new	29		

LONDON, December 12, 5 P. M.—Consols 93 15 16. United States bonds 5-20's 1865, 104½; do, 1867, 110¾; new 5's, 107⅝; 10-40's, 108¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 98; Erie 8; do. preferred 15.

PARIS, December 12.—Rentes 104 francs 50 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 12.—United States bonds—New 5's 101½.

NEW ORLEANS, December 12.—Gold 107½. Sight exchange on New York ¼ per cent. discount. Sterling exchange 515.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, December 12, 1876.

A moderate business was transacted in wholesale and commission circles to-day, and the general condition of trade underwent no important alterations. The tendency in grain is upward, under the influence of light supplies, and we note advances of 2@3c in wheat, oats and new corn. Flour has also an upward tendency in sympathy with wheat, but as yet jobbers retain previous quotations. In provisions we note a decline in hams and an advance in mess pork, the latter apparently being likely to be only of transient duration. In other lines of wholesale traffic the market is steady and unchanged.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in this city since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	2,195	Apples, bbls	54
Corn, bus	1,030	Hides, pieces	74
Wheat, bus	720	Bacon, pcs	3,999
Barley, bus	450	Potatoes, bus	40
Rye, bus	357	Hay, bales	195
Oats, bus	3,049		

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The light supplies of wheat, oats and corn has induced an upward tendency in these staples. Wheat is in light supply and the upward tendency of the Western markets has caused an advance in the price of prime new red, although it was already relatively higher than that of flour. We quote prime Ohio and Pennsylvania red at $1 37@1 40 per bushel; amber do $1 40@1 43; white $1 43@1 45. Corn is also steady for old shelled, white new is active and advancing. We quote old shelled at 55@57c per bushel for prime yellow and high, mixed; new car is in demand at 50@52c; prime new shelled 56@58c. Oats also display considerable strength, and the sales are reported large, though we have heard of no sales at that figure. We quote prime white at 40@41c per bushel; mixed 38@39c. Rye is in increased supply and easy at 70@75c. Barley is quiet and continues scarce. We quote 75@80c for good to prime spring; prime fall $1 05@1 10. Jobbing sales are made at the usual advance.

FLOUR—Is very firm in consequence of the upward movement in the wheat market, and while former prices are nominally unchanged, we can an advance is confidently looked for in the near future. Local millers quote their whole wheat flour as follows: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 50 ₱ barrel; No. 1 amber do $7 25@7 00; primed wheat flour $6 75@6 50; in sacks 25c per ₱ bbl less. The following are the quotations of leading dealers for standard brands of flour are as follows: Choice brands of red winter wheat flour $6 25@6 75; white wheat $7 25@7 50; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 00@6 25; Minnesota $6 50 @6 75; fancy do $7 00@7 50; choice patents $7 50@8 00; Graham flour $6 50@6 75; commeal 2c ₱ bushel; oatmeal $6 75 ₱ barrel; kegs $3 75; rye flour $4 25@4 50.

HAY—The market is very firm at unchanged prices. We quote loose from wagon at $12 00@14 00 ₱ ton. Baled from first hands $14 00@16 00 as to quality and condition. From second hands $1 00@2 00 ₱ ton higher.

MILL FEED—Remains quiet. The rates current are: Bran $12 00@13 00 ₱ ton; chops part $16 00@17 00; chopped feed $20 00@22 00.

Country Produce.

APPLES—There is a fair demand with a liberal supply, though receipts have been considerably decreased by the cold weather. There is no improvement in prices, however, which are unchanged. We quote prices in a jobbing way at $1 00@1 50 per barrel.

APPLE BUTTER—Is dull and nominal at 30@35c ₱ gallon.

BEANS—Is in fair demand at 30@35c ₱ b.

BEANS—The demand is active and the market is firm with an upward tendency. We quote prime white navy at $1 75@2 00 per bushel; some stock held at $2 25.

BROOM-CORN—The supply is large with a moderate demand for small lots, and the market is rather easy. We quote choice hurl at 6@7c, as to quality; brush that will work up 5@6c; medium green 4@5c; red-topped 3@4c; inferior not wanted at any price; crooked in fair demand at about 33 per cent. off from the prices given, according to quality.

BUTTER—Receipts of choice stock continue light, and all strictly first-class table grades are in active demand and firm. The low grades are overabundant not only here but in the East, so that the usual methods of relieving the market by reshipment does not work satisfactorily. Prices continue steady and unchanged, with the exception of some weakness in common to medium qualities. Creamery is selling at 38@39c. We quote prime to choice solid packed 34@36c; do roll 30@32c; choice dairy rolls 24@28 per ₱. Buttermilk Flora is fairly active and steady. We quote at $3 75@4 00 per cwt. for prime quality.

CHEESE—The demand is only moderate, and while values are steady the market does not display all the firmness of last week. We quote prime October Ohio factory at 14@15c in round lots; jobbing at 15@16c. New York Goshen 15c in round lots; 15½@16c in a jobbing way.

CRANBERRIES—Are in moderate supply and the market is steady. Prices range at $8 00@10 00 ₱ barrel; $2 25@3 50 ₱ bushel.

EGGS—The demand is fair and supply light. Prices range from $1 50@1 80, barrel for undrawn, for common; $1 90@2 00 for choice.

HONEY—The market is dull and nominal. We quote prime to choice strictly apples nominal at 25@26c ₱ lb for prime, and 23@24c for fancy; dried apples 9@10c; evaporates 7@8c.

DRIED FRUIT—There is a good demand for new crop at $4 00@4 50 ₱ bushel.

LARD—The market continues steady and unchanged. We quote at 7@7½c ₱ lb; 50 ₱ do tubs 7½@7¾c; 20 ₱ do pails 7¾@8c; 10 ₱ do pails 8@8¼c; 5 ₱ do pails 8¼@8½c; 3 ₱ do pails 8½@8¾c.

FEATHERS—Choice are quoted at 60@65c in whole-ale lots; lower qualities 50@55c.

GAME—The supply is ample and prices are easy. Quotations are as follows: Venison—saddles 10@12c ₱ lb; hams 10@12c ₱ lb; whole carcass, dressed, 8@10c ₱ lb; rabbits 75 per dozen. Pheasants $3 00@3 50 per dozen. Prairie fowl $4 00@4 50 per dozen. Rabbits on a commission basis.

HONEY—We can report a fair trade demand for new California at 22@25c ₱ lb; domestic 20@ ₱ lb.

NUTS—Are in good supply and the market is easy. We quote chestnuts at $5 00 ₱ bushel; walnuts 50c ₱ bushel; hickory nuts $1 00 ₱ bushel; beechnuts $1 50@1 75.

ONIONS—Are firmer at $2 00@2 25 ₱ barrel.

POULTRY—The supply is large and the market fairly active for fowls; fresh stock, we quote live chickens by the coop at 40@45c ₱ pair; dressed 11@12c ₱ lb; spring chickens 75@80c each; dressed 11@13c ₱ lb. Ducks 45@50c ₱ per pair; dressed 11@13c ₱ lb. Geese 9@10c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—The supply is considerably reduced, the cold weather preventing shipments to this city from the country. The warmer weather may allow an addition to stocks here, but if not, then the upward tendency of the market may be expected to continue quite strong. At present, however, yesterday's quotations are unchanged. We quote store sort at 40@45 ₱ bu for prime peachblows; lower grades 30@35c; prime Rochesters 45@50c; prime early rose 45@50c; Bellmonts $1 00@1 10 ₱ bu; Burbanks $1 00@1 10 ₱ bushel.

VINEGAR—There is a moderate demand at 16 @20c ₱ gallon for prime country stock; 14@15c for best city make.

Provisions.

The market continues rather sluggish, but an increased trade is confidently looked for as the new crop of hog products comes into market. Prices are generally unchanged, the exceptions being a reduction of ½c on hams and an advance of 50c per barrel on mess pork. Receipts continue light.

BACON—The market is steady. Jobbing quotations are as follows: Shoulders 8c ₱ pound; short rib sides 10½c; clear sides 10¾c.

CURED MEATS—Hams—Sugar cured easy at 13½c ₱ lb for extra sugar-cured. Breakfast bacon rules easy and we quote sugar-cured at 13½c. Sugar-cured shoulders were steady at 9½c. Dried beef, sugar-cured, was firm at 14½c. Beef tongues, ₱ dozen, are quoted at ₱ 50.

LARD—Demand fair and market steady. We quote refined lard in tierces 11½c ₱ lb; in half bbls 12c ₱ lb; in buckets 12¾c ₱ lb; in 5-lb pails 14½c ₱ lb; in 3-lb candies 14 ₱ lb; in 5-lb pails 14½c ₱ lb; in 5-lb pails 14c ₱ lb; in 6-lb pails 13¾c ₱ lb. Leaf lard rules at 11c in tierces.

HAM SUGAR—Is firm and unchanged. We quote best make of extra at 16c per gallon; current makes of extra at 87c. No. 1 at 73c ₱ gallon; No. 2 at 60c; miners' oil, white winter, 50@55c; yellow winter, 45@50c.

MESS PORK—Is firm and higher at $18 00 per barrel.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers', city rendered, at 9@9½c ₱ lb; country do 7¾@8c ₱ lb; rough 5½c ₱ lb.

Groceries.

The grocery trade was moderately active today and prices were steady throughout. There was a moderate demand for Rio coffee at the advanced rates, while sugars moved steadily at the quotations of yesterday. Other staples were in moderate demand and steady at the following prices-current:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb.	*Sugars.*	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio	23	Standard A	11¾@11⅞c
Choice Rio	22	Standard B	11¼@11⅜c
Prime Rio	22	Do. extra C	10¾@11c
Good Rio	21	Good do C	10¼@10⅝c
Ordinary Rio	19	C—yellow	10 @10⅛c
Java	30	C—Franklin, B	10½@10⅝c
Roasted Coffees.		Prime Orleans	9¾@10¼c
Rio, in papers	26	Cut Loaf	13½c
20 grades Java	34	Crushed	13½c
Rio, in bulk	22	Powdered	12¾c
Java, in papers	31	Granulated	12¾c
Java, in bulk	30	*Molasses.*	₱ gal.
Teas.		Strv ch. N. O	63
Young Hyson	25@31	Prime	57@60
Gunpowder	28@	*Syrups.*	
Imperial	30@	Ex. white drips	61@65
Japan	30@	Sugar drips	55
Oolong	28@	Lower grades	25@45
Fancy Tea	34	*Starch.*	₱ lb
Souchong	28@	Pearl	3¾@4 c
Spices (whole.)		Silver Gloss	3¾@4 c
Cloves	45 c	Corn	6@7 c
Allspice	17 c	*Rice.*	
Pepper	20@21 c	Choice Carlo	6@6¼ c
Nutmegs	1 15	Patna	7½c
Pepper	18 c	Rangoon	7 c
Soaps.		Louisiana	6 c
Irish soap, ₱ box	4 25	*Soda.*	
S. S. Pierce, ₱ box	3 75	B-can, in 1-4 cases	6 c
Babbitt's best, ₱ box	6 75	B-can, in 10-lb pieces	5 c
Gold do	5 25	B-can, in 5-lb papers	6 c
Extra olive do	4 50	*Saleratus.*	
Do. N. Y. City, ₱ box	6	Star, full w't	6 c
German mottled do	3 50	Cornwell do	6 c
California, ₱ box	4 50	Mould	10@11c

FISH—The market is moderately active with a fair demand and unchanged prices. Quotations are as follows:

Per bbl.		Per bbl.	
Extra No. 1 Mess mackerel	$27 00	Round herring	$5 00
Extra No. 1 shore	24 00	Lake Herring	7 50
Extra No. 1 bay	22 00	Lake Pick., white	5 25
Extra No. 2 large	18 00	Lake Herring, do	2 25
No. 2 medium	15 50	Lge Georges cod-fish, ₱ lb	.....
Large No. 3	11 00	Medium Georges	5¾
No. 3 medium	8 50	Halibut, ₱ lb	12½
No. 3 Herring, ₱ box	1 00	No. 1 Herring, ₱ box	35
Lake Trout, do	4 50	Scaled herring do	40

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is a moderate trade. We quote as follows: Raisins—Layers, new, per box, $2 25; London layers, new, $3 25; Muscatel $2 50; mat raisins $5 25 ₱ mat; Valentias, new, 10@9c ₱ lb. Sultanas 17c. Dates 9@8½c ₱ lb. Currants 7½c. Citron 30c. Prunes 16@9c. Almonds—Languedoc 22c; do shelled 35c; do Princess 37c; do Jordan 40c; do Ivica 22c. Walnuts—Naples 22c; Marbot 16c; Sicily filberts 16c. Smyrna figs, new, 18c. Brazil nuts 10c. Macaroni ₱ box, $5 00. Oranges—Florida $3 50 ₱ hundred. Cocoanuts ₱ hundred, $6 00. Cassia and Ginger—Canton is fair at unchanged quotations. We quote green peas, 2 ₱ cans per dozen, $2 25; raspberries do $2 50; strawberries do, $2 25; gooseberries do $1 30; pineapples do, $2 30; $2 75 ₱ do; greengages do $1 50; peaches, 2 ₱ cans per dozen, $2 25; tomatoes do, $2 00; pickles, bbls, $6 00; half-bbls, $3 00.

Petroleum.

December 12.—The refined market ruled very firm here and also in the East. A further advance was established in this market of 1@2c per gallon, with sales of tree on cars at 27½c; to the home trade 28½c. At New York holders have a decided advantage, and sales were made at the highest prices for a long time. Spot 27½@28c; sales of 10,000 barrels February delivery at 27¾c; cash, 28@28½c. At Philadelphia standard white, spot, was 32½c; January 27½c. At Baltimore spot ruled at 30c; and 62c. Baltimore's dull at 62@63½c.

PARKERS, December 12, 5:30 P. M.—The crude oil market opened this morning very strong at $1 34, and rapidly advanced to $1 37½, from this point a reaction set in and the price gave way to 1 32½, where it ates dull and steady until after bank hours, when a sudden onslaught was made by sellers, causing a severe panic and a general rush to sell. Under the pressure a fall of 10c took place in a few minutes, and although attempts were subsequently made to sustain prices gave way gradually to $1 06, which is the present quotation. Shipments during the morning was slightly larger and reported at about 65c over certificates. Union oil for at about 65c over certificates. Union oil 110c below Conduit and Empire. Shipments from the lower districts for Monday, 22,462 barrels.

OIL BARRELS—held firmly; city made $1 35; country do $1 25.

(By Western Union Telegraph.)

NEW YORK, December 12, closing 11—The scarcity of refined for prompt delivery causes wholly arbitrary prices on the few urgent orders. Sales were made fully 2@3c above Saturday's figures; the whole market is very strong and future deliveries fully 5@c higher; demand fair but less general than on Saturday; sales are 3,000 barrels refined, New York delivery, spot, at 32½c, 500 barrels do 32½c; these parcels taken to fill vessels; also 10,000 barrels refined, deliverable to February 10th, at 27½c, closing at 27½@28,000 bbls on private terms and 5,000 barrels refined for early February delivery in Philadelphia at 27c. Quotations for New York delivery are: Crude 135c in bulk; 183c in barrels; city naptha 14c in shipping order; refined in barrels 32½@32½c spot; 32½ for late December and 28c for late January; sales 350,000 at Philadelphia spot ruled at 32½c and 28c for late January, and at Baltimore 30c for late December and 27½c for late January.

PHILADELPHIA, December 12—Market firm; crude 13½c; standard white 32½c old December; 28c bid January; cases 36c.

OIL CITY, December 12.—Market opened firm; no oil to be obtained at any price; $1 21½ bid for United; everybody buyers; immediate shipment not quotable.

ROUSEVILLE, December 12.—Market firm and higher; $1 05 bid; $1 10 asked.

TITUSVILLE, December 21.—Market very firm at $1 10.

PARKERS, December 12, noon.—United $1 20 bid; shipment $4 20. Market nominally quiet but firm.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, December 12.—Petroleum quiet crude 6c; refined 32c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 12.—Petroleum active and firmer crude in barrels 17½@17¾c; refined 32½@32½c.

LIVERPOOL, December 12.—Refined petroleum 9½d; spirits 10½d.

ANTWERP, December 12—Refined petroleum 83 francs.

CLEVELAND, December 12.—Petroleum strong; standard white, 110 degrees test, 27c.

MOVEMENTS OF PETROLEUM.

	Barrels.
Crude receipts, A. V. R. R	1,60
Refined shipments, A. V. R. R	3,31

General Merchandise.

ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—The market is easier. We quote alcohol at 92 20@92 25 ₱ gal. lon. Highwines are lower at $1 13@1 14 ₱ gallon.

RAGS AND RAGGING—There is a steady demand at steady prices. We quote as follows: gunny bags, 2½c; do second-hand 2c. Linen rags 2½c; Manila 2½c; Bagging—Philadelphia A's 8 36c; California grain bags 9c; bagging 10@12c; Penn mill 3 bushel 42c; do 2¼ bushel do 37c; do 2 bushel 33c; Allegheny 2 bushel do 28c.

BAKING POWDER—Quoted as follows: ¼ ₱ cans $1 50 ₱ dozen; ½ ₱ cans $3 00; 1 ₱ cans $5 50; 5 ₱ cans $25 00; 10 ₱ cans $50 00.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY—The market is steady with some little business done for export, mainly to fill previous freights. We quote: Printing paper, Milwaukee at 3 35@3 50; No. 3 at 2 90; No. 2 Chicago spring nominally at 3 40@3 50; spring, unbleached manilla, choice at 3½@4c; medium and extra white Michigan, in store, $1 50. Rye paper, Western 2½@3½c.

BOOTS AND LEATHER—The market has been rather quiet the past week. Rough leather and cured sole are firm and show upward tendencies, particularly as to weights. Hides are quiet, steady and unchanged. We quote as follows:

Leather	
Oak sole, country ₱ lb	30@ 33
Oak sole, city	38@ 39
Red sole, Buenos Ayres heavy	28@ 30
Red sole, Buenos Ayres light	28@ 30
Red sole, Orinoco and Cala. heavy	29@ 30
Red sole, Orinoco and Cala. mid	28@ 29
Red sole, good damaged	25@ 27
Oak, rough	24@ 27
Harness, city	30@ 33
Harness, country	28@ 30
Harness, No. 2 and common	26@ 28
Collar, oak ₱ foot	12@ 14
Fair skirting ₱ lb	37@ 40
Fair bridle, ₱ doz	84 00@96 00
Fair upper, ₱ foot	33@ 41
Finished calf	90@1 20
Finished upper, ₱ foot	80@1 00
Finished kips ₱ ₱	80@ 90
Hides.	
Green salted cows	7 @ 7¾
Green salted steers, light	7½@ 8¾
Green salted steers, heavy	9 @ 10
Green salted calf	10 @ 12
Green butcher cows	5½
Green butcher steers, light	7
Green butcher steers, heavy	8
Green butcher calf	10

Hemlock—the demand is active at $130 00 for Kentucky rough.

OILS—Trade is fairly active and the market is steady. We quote jobbing prices as follows: Neatsfoot oil, pure, per gallon, 90c; do No. 1, 75c; do No. 2 engine (amber color) 65c; extra engine (dark), 55c; spindle oil, 50c; West Virginia, 25c; natural lubricating, 28 degrees gravity, 30c; do 32 degrees gravity, 35c; do 35 degrees gravity, 40c; amber burning or forel oil 140 fire test 14@15c; residuum (no fire test), 8@9c; resilia and tar oil for wagon axle grease, $12 00 per bbl; lubricating grease, 3@4c ₱ lb; miners' grease, 2½@3c; whale oil 75c; cod oil, for tanners, 60@65c; straits oil, for tanners, 50@55c.

ROSIN—The market is steady. We quote cotton mixed 2½@2¾c ₱ lb; and wooden 3c.

SPICE PULLER—Sales made at $2 00 ₱ press.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $5 00; hand sapolio cases of 6 dozen, $5 00.

SALT—The market is steady and unchanged. No 1 sells in car lots at $1 00 per barrel. We quote jobbing prices as follows: No. 1, $1 25 for extra do; $1 45 for dairy; Liverpool salt repacked in large packages of 220 lbs, $2 00@2 10; do in small packages $2 25@2 50 ₱ bbl.

SEEDS—The supply is ample and prices are easy. Quotations are as follows: Timothy—sandies 100 lbs, $3 00@3 50 per bushel; prime, $4 00@4 50; extra clean 150 lbs, $5 00@5 50; fancy, $6 00@6 50; choice, $7 00@7 50. Clover—Alsike, $8 00@9 00; Alsike and Timothy mixed, $6 00@6 50; Red Clover, $7 00@7 50; White Clover, $10 00@12 00; Blue Grass—Kentucky, $2 00@2 50; Orchard Grass, $2 00@2 50; Red Top, $1 00@1 50; Hungarian, $1 00@1 25; Millet, $1 00@1 25; German, $1 00@1 25; Flax, $2 00@2 25; Buckwheat, $1 00@1 25.

SODA—The demand is fair at former prices. The following are jobbing rates as quoted by manufacturers' agents:

	₱ lb.	₱ 100 lbs.
No. 1 bulk		$1 50
No. 2 bulk		1 75
No. 3 bulk		2 00
No. 4 bulk		2 25
No. 1 carpet		3 00
No. 2 carpet		3 25
No. 3 carpet		3 50
No. 4 carpet		4 25
No. 1 fancy parlor	2 25@2 50	
No. 2 fancy parlor	4 00@5 00	
Hotel, fine corn (extra heavy)	4 00@5 00	
Whips, 6, 8 and 10 inch	1 25@1 75	
Toy Brooms	1 10@1 25	
Misses' brooms	2 25	

BRUSHES AND LEATHER—The market has been rather quiet the past week. Rough leather and cured sole are firm and show upward tendencies, particularly as to weights. Hides are quiet, steady and unchanged. We quote as follows:

CARPETS.

CARPETS!
DRUGGETS,
OIL CLOTHS,
MATTINGS
As we near stock taking, we offer SPECIAL BARGAINS.
BOVARD, ROSE & CO.,
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Manufacturers and Dealers in
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GREEN SHADE CLOTH A SPECIALTY.
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Tarrant's Seltzer Aperient
CURE?" asks the sufferer from a multitude of diseases. We answer: It will remove from the system the active cause of most of the diseases that flesh is heir to. It won't mend a broken limb, nor close a bullet hole; but it may be profitably used in stomachic diseases. It will do no one any harm and may do much good. Try it, and see if it won't suit your case.
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CITY MATTERS.

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Weather Report.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., ROOM 25, FIRST NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 12, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	Wind.—Dir.	Wind.—Miles P hour	Weath.
7 A.M.	29 725	35	80	W.	11	Cloudy
2 P.M.	29.809	38	80	W.	8	Cloudy
9 P.M.	29 882	34	79	W.	8	Clear.

Mean barometer, 29.842 Highest thermom... 38
Mean thermom...34.7 Lowest thermom... 33
Snow fall—melted..... ..... 0.07

Costiveness,

or any Bilious Symptoms, are removed effectually by Dr. Jayne's Sanative Pills. MWS*

Beaver College.

The grand concert which always closes the fall term of this institution takes place Thursday evening of this week. In the instrumental part the grand piano pipe organ violin and viola will be employed. Mrs. Merrick of New Brighton, better known as Miss Clara Eckes, a charming vocalist, is to assist in the evening's entertainment. The winter term opens immediately after the holidays.

From the Refuge to Morganza.

The removal of the more than two hundred boy and girl inmates of the House of Refuge to the new Reform School at Morganza Farm was quietly and thoroughly perfected yesterday morning. Between nine and ten o'clock they took passage *via* the C. & P. R. R. Union depot and Charities Valley Railroad for their destination. Superintendent Loomis and Managers Yeager, Anderson, Bigham, Rinehart and others accompanied them. The youngsters were evidently delighted with their episode.

The College Journal.

The first number of this excellent college paper, for the current year, has at last been received. Though long delayed in appearing, it is none the less acceptable to its friends and readers, but rather all the more appreciated on that account. The *Journal* is edited and issued by the students of the Western University, and is a purely literary publication. The present number is meritorious in respect of several articles. There are some inaccuracies, probably typographical, and the make up is not what it should be. But these accepted, there is nothing to find fault with, and editors and contributors are alike deserving of praise for the excellence of their work.

The Evening Telegraph.

The sale of the *Evening Telegraph* newspaper establishment, which was set aside recently on account of an informality, was made a second time, yesterday afternoon, by the Sheriff. The sale was made upon an execution obtained by certain judgment creditors. Thomas M. Marshall, Esq., representing Thomas MacConnell and other stockholders, formally protested against the sale, alleging that it was simply for the purpose of divesting the general stockholders of their rights. The sale proceeded, however, and the concern was knocked down to Robert Arthurs, Esq., at the nominal sum of $2,600, Mr. Arthurs purchasing for the execution creditors. Mr. MacConnell bid several times, but closed at $1,800. It is stated that this sale will be contested in the Courts. In the meantime, the paper will be reorganized in its editorial and business management.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Dr. Snively, physician to the Board of Health, reports that during the week ending December 9th, there were thirty-four deaths in the city. Last week there were forty-nine deaths, and the mortality this week is smaller than for several weeks.

Causes of death—Scarlet fever, 1; enteric fever, 2; diphtheria, 6; hooping cough, 1; scrofula, 1; phthisis pulmonalis, 2; meningitis, 3; myelitis, 1; valvular disease of heart, 1; asthma, 1; bronchitis, 2; pneumonia, 3; dysentery, 1; Bright's disease, 1; hip joint disease, 1; old age, 2; debility, 1; alcohol (intemperance), 1; run over by railroad cars, 2; unknown, 1.

Color—White—Males, 12; females, 16; total, 28. Colored—Females, 6.

Social Relations—Married, 8; single, 24; widows, 2.

Nativity—Pittsburgh, 23; other parts of the United States, 4; Germany, 2; Ireland, 3; Italy, 1; Holland, 1. Total, 34.

Age—Under one year, 5; from 1 to 2 years, 4; from 2 to 5, 6; from 5 to 10, 3; from 15 to 20, 2; from 20 to 30, 5; from 30 to 40, 2; from 40 to 50, 1; from 50 to 60, 2; from 60 to 70, 2; from 70 to 80, 1; from 88 to 90, 1. Total, 34.

Localities—City wards, 31; Pittsburgh Infirmary, 2; St. Francisous Hospital, 1.

The Central Church Concert.

The Central Presbyterian Church was just pleasantly filled last evening to enjoy the choice selections from the range of musical literature to be rendered by the choir. The recent improvements made in the auditorium have made it as cheerful a place for evening gatherings as can be found in the city. To judge from both the number gathered there last evening and their evident satisfaction, the Central Church Quartette have it in their power to make "imperative engagements" for a good many of their friends for some of these winter evenings.

Little Miss Ewing's "Tapping at the Garden Gate" seemed to tap the fountain of tender emotions in breasts not even old or young. Indeed, she made herself quite the pet of the evening. Below we present the

PROGRAMME—PART FIRST.

1. "O, What Beauty".....Quartette.
2. Argument of Jesus.....Quartette.
3. Lord Forever at Thy Side.....Quartette.
4. Larboard Watch .....Messrs. Graham and Digby.
5. Evening Bells.....Quartette.
6. Tapping at the Garden Gate .....Miss Ewing.
7. The Sleigh Ride.....Quartette.
8. Good Night, Beloved .....Miss Hamilton and Mr. Graham.

PART SECOND.

1. Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming .....Quartette.
2. Italian Letter.....Quartette.
3. Swing Low.....Miss Sawyer.
4. Little Robin Tell Katie.....Miss Hamilton.
5. Whistle, Daughter".....Miss Mary Ewing.
6. Master and Scholar .....Miss Sawyer and Mr. Graham.
7. Consider and Sigh...J. Digby and Quartette.

*By special request.

A Quaint Old Pennsylvania Town.

BERLIN, PA., December 6, 1876.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Seeing that the COMMERCIAL is the only Republican paper that finds its way into this borough, I thought a few words from here might not come amiss.

Berlin is situated in Brothers' Valley township, Somerset county, on what is called Dividing ridge, midway between the Allegheny mountains and the Laurel range. It is claimed to be the oldest settlement in the county. You reach the place *via* the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, getting off at Garrett station, and taking a branch road seven miles, called the Buffalo Valley Branch, and when you arrive at the end of the route you are still one hundred and forty-five feet below the town, with a half a mile of muddy road at an angle of forty-five degrees to climb to get on to a passable pavement. It seems strange to me that those who had the constructing of this road, did not run it along Miller's creek, instead of following the valley. Henry would have had an easy grade, and brought the road right into town.

There are five or six churches in the place, and judging by the attendance last Sunday, it fully sustains the reputation they have of being a very pious community, the majority being "Brethren" or "Dunkers," as they are commonly called here. It is rather a bleak, dreary place at this time of the year, so quiet that a dog fears to break the stillness with a bark—no light after eight, and no one on the streets after ten. The inhabitants are mostly all farmers, those living in town owning farms out in the suburbs. It is a great place for trading—very little money changing hands. When a farmer wants anything from the store here he loads his wagon with corn, vegetables, butter or coal (every farmer has a coal bank here), brings it in, and gets his goods where he can make the best trade. The houses are built with a view more to comfort than for their architectural beauty. They are all plain, old-fashioned buildings, with no improvements since they were built. There has been only one new building put up here for years. That is a new school house they are now putting up; but in my opinion they have spoiled it, by putting it on the outskirts of town; in the very worse location they could find in the place.

There is one foundry in the place, which employes about a dozen men. There is plenty of bituminous coal here, the hills being full of it, and of good quality; but the coal has been left to lie unused (except the little each farmer takes out for his own use).

Last fall a company from Wisconisco, Pa., sought a tract of land here, on which they have opened a mine, the vein being four and a half feet thick and yielding when tested eighty-seven per cent. of coke. The mines are known as the Berlin Coal Mines, and the company are now shipping to Baltimore, Cumberland, Bedford and other places. The opening of this mine will be apt to stir Berlin up a little.

Deer are very plenty here this year, and nearly every one who could find anything in the shape of a gun has been out, and the result has been, deer meat is a drag in the market. There were some parties here from Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Baltimore; and they generally got less deer than anybody else.

The population of the town is about nine hundred. The township gave Hayes nine majority at the recent election, though it is generally Democratic.

I almost forgot to mention the most interesting personage in the place, a genuine "medicine man" from the Kansas reservation—a full-blooded Mohawk. He has been travelling around the country for a couple of years, curing all the ills that flesh is heir to. He has his squaw here with him, and intends to remain over winter, and in the spring start for the home of the red man.

The "COMMERCIAL" is the only authority in regard to politics, the people here accept in regard to markets and the general news. QUIS.

EDUCATIONAL.

Meeting of the Central Board—Monthly Statistics—Holida Vacation—Organization of Ward Boards, &c., &c.

A regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education was held last evening.

Present—Messrs. Bell, Buckley, Burtt, Evans, Fennerty, Kehew, Kimmel, Lawrence, Lewis, Miller, McEwen, McKain, McKee, McKelvey, Nicholson, Rankin, Shaw, Teese, Vaughan, Wilson, Nobbs, President.

The resignation of H. A. Alter, of the Springfield district, was read and accepted.

REPORT OF THE CITY SUPERINTENDENT.

The report of Superintendent Luckey was read as follows:

TEACHERS EMPLOYED.

Department.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Principals.....	33	6	39
Grammar Department.....	4	78	82
Medium Department.....	.....	95	95
Primary Department.....	1	189	190
High School.....	13	7	20
Music.....	6	.....	6
Total.....	57	375	432

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS.

Department.	Enrolled. Males.	Enrolled. Females.	Enrolled. Total.	Average. Males.	Average. Females.	Average. Total.
Primary.....	5,509	5,272	10,881	4,705	4,300	9,005
Medium.....	2,026	2,045	4,071	1,760	1,742	3,502
Grammar.....	1,326	1,267	2,919	1,135	1,035	2,170
High.....	257	275	532	225	246	471
Total.....	9,218	8,159	18,397	7,875	7,73	15,608

EVENING SCHOOLS.

Teachers employed—Males, 31; females 16: total 77.

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS.

	Enrolled. Males.	Enrolled. Females.	Enrolled. Total.	Average. Males.	Average. Females.	Average. Total.
Regular evening schools.....	2,394	442	2,836	1,541	370	1,911
Mechanical evening schools....	117	4	121	75	3	78
Total.....	2,511	446	2,957	1,616	373	1,989

Since my last report we have received from Philadelphia all the material which composed our educational exhibit, except the model of the High School building, which has been transferred to the main building to remain as a part of the permanent exhibition.

I respectfully suggest that the preliminary examinations be held in the High School building on Thursday December 21st and that the High School be adjourned on Wednesday December 20th for the Christmas vacation.

The report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

The Secretary reported warrants drawn since last meeting as follows:

For salaries of teachers.....	$28,112 35
For bills.....	1,090 62
	29,202 97

The report was accepted.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

The Secretary read the report of the Principal of the High School, Prof. Jillson, showing for November:

Academical Department — Enrolled, males 163, females 185; average attendance, males 136; females 165.

Commercial Department — Enrolled, males 103, females 14; average attendance, males 85, females 12.

Normal Department—Enrolled, males —, females 74; average attendance, females 68.

Total—total—Enrolled, males 267, females 275; average attendance, males 225, females 246.

The principal acknowledges the receipt of the semi-weekly *Herald*, which is kept on file.

The report was accepted.

On motion of Mr. Burtt, the thanks of the Board were tendered the *Herald* Printing Company for courtesy shown.

FINANCIAL.

Mr. Rankin, from the Finance Committee, reported as follows:

Balance Nov. 14th.....	$122,950 11	
Receipts from non-resident pupils.....	539 00	
City Treasurer, taxes, 1875..	11,996 03	
		$135,453 14
Warrrants paid since November 10th.....	$27,342 15	
Paid bonds and interest.....	1,035 00	
		28,377 15
Balance.....		$107,077 99
Interest due to Nov. 1st.....	$1,422 47	
Interest due for November	378 52	
		$1,795 99

The report was accepted.

The High School Committee reported in favor of a recommendation to the State Superintendent that a permanent certificate be granted to Professor Wood.

The report was accepted, and a resolution covering the recommendation was adopted.

Mr. McEwen reported certain improvements at the Miller street school, which were ordered to be paid for.

On motion, vacation was ordered from the evening of the 22d inst., 1876, until January 2d, 1877.

On motion of Dr. Shaw, it was ordered that the teachers be paid for December on the Saturday before Christmas so far as possible.

Mr. Burtt, from the Committee on Legislation, reported the draft of a bill changing the time of the organization of ward school boards from January until June.

It was explained that if the bill was passed before the next city election then there would be no election for directors next February.

On motion, the matter was referred to the local boards to report back through their respective representatives.

Applications for additional teachers in the Ralston and the Humboldt districts were received, and referred to the appropriate committee.

The Chair appointed Messrs. Kehew, Hill, Barker, Taylor and French the Visiting Committee for the ensuing month.

Mr. Burtt offered the following:

Resolved, That hereafter all teachers employed, be engaged with the understanding that when the average attendance for two months in succession falls below the standard required, that a teacher will be dropped.

Mr. Shaw moved to amend by making the time three months.

Mr. Finnerty moved to further amend by making the time one month.

After some discussion the resolution as presented was adopted, and the secretary was instructed to notify the several Boards.

Mr. Miller presented a petition numerously signed asking that a Mechanical School be established in the Duquesne school building. Ferm ward, or that the school proposed to be held in the Second ward be transferred to the Duquesne building. On motion the petition was granted.

Mr. Lewis moved that in the counting of scholars on applications for additional teachers only pupils resident of the ward be recognized. Not seconded.

Adjourned.

THE BROOKLYN HORROR.

How It Might Have Been Prevented.

The dreadful calamity which befel the audience assembled in the Brooklyn theater, a few nights ago, has filled the minds of the people with alarm, and caused a shock which the country will not soon recover from. Similar calamities have happened, from time to time, in the history of many large cities, not only in this country but in Europe, and it is about time that a remedy was applied. We say applied, for an apparatus has already been provided, the use of which would effectually prevent such wholesale destruction of life. The Connelly chemical apparatus for extinguishing fires, had been introduced into the Brooklyn theater, would have extinguished the flames in a few seconds, the panic would have been avoided, and not a single life need have been sacrificed. This invention—one of the most valuable of the age, in that it renders life as well as property secure against destruction by fire—has been before the country for a year or more, and in experimental tests has demonstrated its efficiency so completely and satisfactorily that no room for doubt remains. It has already been introduced into a number of manufacturing establishments, notably in the mammoth factories of the Beaver Falls Cutlery Company, but it ought to be in use in every public building where any means of escape are not already ample. Had the lessons of preceding calamities been heeded, the owners of the Brooklyn theater would have been in condition to have protected their audience from harm, and that at a compartively trifling outlay. The terrible lesson of Richmond has been repeated, with fearful emphasis, at Brooklyn, and shall it not be heeded? If the owners of public halls will not voluntarily apply the protective means within their power, they should be compelled to do it by legal enactment. Public tests of the apparatus to which we have referred have been made in this city, and in the East, and full descriptions have already been printed in our own and other papers, so that it is unnecessary to repeat the *modus operandi* in this connection. It is a duty which the press owes to the country, however, in a case like this, to urge the adoption of such means as are known to be effective in saving life and property. It is to be hoped, therefore, that in overcoming architectural defects such as rendered the Brooklyn theater a death-trap, the owners of all similar places will fully investigate the merits of this timely invention.

Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad.

The citizens meetings held at different places between this city and Phillipsburg, in the interest of the projected Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad have from time to time been reported. At each of these meetings committees were appointed to hold a general meeting in this city for the purpose of learning more definitely of the project. Yesterday afternoon this meeting was held at the Chamber of Commerce, where a large number of residents from the rural districts met President McCreery. The meeting was successful in the object desired, and a number of new subscriptions were received.

THE INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.

The Life Members Meet and Choose a New Board of Directors.

The annual meeting of the life members of the Tradesmen's Industrial Institute was held yesterday at eleven o'clock at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. There were at the opening of the meeting, some thirty-five members, and of the old Board but Mr. A. Hartupee was present.

Mr. John Megraw was chosen chairman and Messrs. J. H. Hillerman and A. C. Bakewell, Secretaries.

The President called for a report from the Board of Directors, Secretary and Treasurer. As there were no such reports forthcoming, Mr. Marvin moved that the members present proceed to elect a Board of thirteen Directors to serve for the ensuing year.

The motion was adopted, and Mr. Edward Armstrong was appointed judge, and Messrs. John Lowry and Edward Crawford as tellers.

Mr. T. N. Miller raised the point that the absence of the President and members of the old Board of Directors might be taken advantage of. He contended that the directors should have submitted a report, so that every stockholder should be acquainted with the financial condition of the Institute. There might be an election held at some other place, and the election now ordered be contested.

Mr. W. G. Johnson argued that the character required an election to be held. The members of the old Board as well as those present, had been formally notified of the meeting, and all the forms of the law had complied with.

The President said he thought there would be no trouble about the election. What was needed was a new Board, and then, if necessary, steps could be taken to compel the old Board to show their hands and give a detailed statement of the condition of affairs.

Mr. Miller said he merely made the suggestions in order to guard against any grounds for complaints of illegality.

A motion was then adopted that the election officers appointed certify the result by the Presidency, and that he and the Secretary be authorized to notify the persons of their election.

The polls were ordered to be kept open until 12:30 and then the meeting adjourned.

NEW DIRECTORS CHOSEN.

The election for directors was then held, and the following gentlemen were declared elected: M. W. Watson, J. C. Lewis, Alexander Nimick, Thomas Wightman, A. Filson Dalzell, E. M. Byers, Walter Chese, J. C. Patterson, W. G. Johnston, William Miller, F. S. Bissell, William Hamilton, S. S. Marvin.

The total number of votes cast at the election was 46, including the proxies.

A meeting of the new board will be held within a few days. After the financial condition of the Institute has been ascertained, it will then be determined whether the enterprise shall be abandoned altogether or an exposition held next year.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge Ketcham.

Rogers & Burchfield, bankrupts, city. Rule on bankrupts and assignees to show cause why schedules should not be amended.

Michael Vercek, bankrupt, city. Composition with creditors confirmed.

Elenor A. Gladden, bankrupt, Greene county. Order made for sale of real estate.

H. H. Aull, bankrupt, Westmoreland county. An alias order for the sale of real estate granted.

Wetlach, Couch & Co., bankrupts, Pittsburgh. A. R. Hay appointed commissioner to take testimony in relation to election of assignee.

The United States Attorney brought suit against David Taggart, principal, of Northumberland county, and John Taggart and Joseph Priestly, sureties on official bond, damages claimed not to exceed $20,630.

Erie Rolling Mill Company, bankrupt, Erie. Assignee's report of sale of book accounts confirmed absolutely.

J. A. Graff & Son, bankrupt, Pittsburgh. Meeting of creditors ordered for 20th inst., to consider whether composition proceedings have been in accordance to law.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

The jury in the case of Margaret Bracken, by her next friend, vs. Robert Brown, in which damages were sought to be recovered against defendant for throwing a shovel of red hot coals on the plaintiff, who is a minor, which severely injured her, returned a verdict against Brown for $400. In a suit, which was brought against the same man, which was tried at the same time, and which he claimed damages for loss of service of the child, the jury returned a verdict for $500.

W. E. Barton vs. Pittsburgh, Oakland and East Liberty Railway Company. Jury out.

Lemuel Reed et ux vs. D. S. McKnight et ux.: action of replevin for two buggies. On trial.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of W. W. Wilson & Co., the assignees' account was presented and ordered to be filed.

Morgon vs. Fawcett; action for damages resulting from a steamboat collision. On trial.

In the case of Jacob H. Walter vs. P. H. Laufman et al., a motion for a new trial was made by defendant's counsel, and reasons were filed.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

Theresa Kirschbaum vs. Samuel Fowler und Annie Early; action for damages for having sold the plaintiff's goods illegally. Jury out.

Alexander Goff *et ux.* vs. the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroad Company; reported yesterday. On trial before Judge White.

John Frazier vs. Robson & Campbell. The jury found for plaintiff for $133 33.

In the matter of the Rev. John Tuigg, trustee for lease to mortgage property, the bond of said Rt. Rev. John Tuigg, with Robert Keating as surety in the sum of $24,000 was approved and ordered filed.

Theresa Kirschbaum vs. John Griffin; action of replevin. On trial before Judge Kirkpatrick.

Oyer and Terminer—Judge Stowe.

SIREEN CONVICTED OF MURDER OF THE SECOND DEGREE.

The trial of Thomas Breen for the murder of Peter Hughes was resumed. The testimony for the Commonwealth was direct and positive, and the plaintiff's counsel did not attempt to controvert the fact that the killing had been done in self-defense, Hughes having snapped a pistol twice at Breen before the fatal shot was fired. Patrick Maloy testified that on the night of the murder, and just before the shooting, the deceased flourished a pistol in the room, and had been ordered out by Breen. William Fanemore testified to the fact that Hughes carried a pistol and that Breen knew it. It was not shown, however, that the deceased had exposed the pistol in the prisoner's face. This was the substance of the testimony for the defense.

Counsel for the prisoner did not urge an acquittal, but strongly argued that the circumstances under which the killing occurred reduced the grade to murder of the second degree.

Counsel for the Commonwealth insisted upon a verdict of murder of the first degree.

The court charged the jury, and they retired about noon. At half-past two o'clock they returned a verdict of "guilty of murder of the first degree," and the prisoner was remanded for sentence. He may congratulate himself upon his fortunate escape from hanging.

William Palmer and Charles Fralinger, charged with larceny and receiving stolen goods. Fralinger pleaded guilty and Palmer was convicted of receiving stolen goods.

Patrick Shields, Max Burkhardt and Wm. Andersonare on trial on a charge of malicious mischief.

Legal Notes.

F. W. Grant, Esq., United States Commissioner and Deputy Clerk, has been notified by the proper authorities that the regular term of the United States Circuit and District Courts will not be held in Erie.

Mary Cermuska instituted a suit for damages in the Common Pleas Court No. 1, against Alderman D. L. Smith, of Allegheny, for having married her minor daughter to Charles Seidle without her consent. The suit is brought under the old statute, which provides a penalty in cases of this kind of $50.

Annie Coslett, by her next friend, entered suit in the Common Pleas Court No. 1, against William Thomas, to recover damages for alleged breach of promise of marriage. She alleges that the contract between the parties was entered into last June, and he neglected and refused to carry it out, alleging as a reason, certain slanders against her character. Thomas Coslett, the father of the girl, also entered suit against Thomas, for damages resulting from the defendant's treatment of his daughter. A *capias* was issued in each case.

ALLEGHENY FINANCES.

Meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee of Allegheny Councils held a meeting last night, at which the following proceedings were had:

Controller Brown presented a report showing a deficiency in park fund No. 1, on January 1, 1877, of $19,508 81, and a balance of $123 in the sewer fund. The amount due from the city is $83,348 39; cash on hand, $31,467 05; deficit, $51,881 24.

A resolution authorizing a temporary loan of $50,000, to meet the expenses of the year, was recommended to Councils for passage.

An ordinance was ordered repealing the ordinance requiring the appropriations and tax levy to be made in April. Mr. Cyrus Hutchinson was elected delinquent tax collector for the Eleventh ward.

A communication from Clerk White, asking an appropriation of $350 for the Park Commission, to settle old debts, was read, and ordered to be reported to Councils with an affirmative recommendation.

Work for Allegheny Councils.

The City Fathers of Allegheny at their meeting to morrow evening will have quite a number of important matters to consider. The water extension ordinance, involving an outlay of $70,000, is the principal subject for legislative action. Next come the reduction of salaries, and a couple of Mayoralty vetoes, viz: On the Darragh street sewer and the Grant street grading ordinance. Their reconsideration is likely to develope not a little feeling.

A PLEASANT AFFAIR.

Camp Fire of Post 88, G. A. R.

Post 88, Grand Army of the Republic, held its annual "camp fire" at its headquarters in the East Diamond, Allegheny, on Monday night. The veterans of that important and flourishing Post, together with a large number of invited guests from other Posts, participated in the celebration and enjoyed an exceedingly pleasant evening. Delegates were present from Post 3, Pittsburgh; Post 117, East Liberty; Post 151, South Side; Post 60, Monongahela City, and Post 38, Etna. The address of welcome was delivered by Comrade Abe Patterson, Commader of Post 88, and speeches were made by Comrades B. C. Christy, J. H. Kerr, W. H. Stoughton, Norman M. Smith, Chill Hazzard, Joseph Hazzard, Dr. Sloan, Richard Realf, S. P. Fulton, J. W. L. Rabe, George B. Chalmers, Colonel Luckey, and others, interspersed with stories and incidents of war, illustrative of the humorous and ludicrous not less than the pathetic and tragic phases of the great struggle for national liberty and unity, and further enlivened with choice selections of vocal and instrumental music, in the former of which the enthusiastic Comrade Collins, with his rollicking patriotic Irish songs, bore a very notable and thoroughly appreciated part. An excellent supper was provided for the guests by the hospitable hosts of Post 88, which was served in fine style at the Central Hotel, and to which full justice was done. During the proceedings Comrade Chill Hazard presented a splendid ivory gavel to Post 88, a gift from Post 60, of Monongahela City, which was received in an eloquent and appropriate manner by Comrade Fulton, of Post 3, deputed by the Commander of Post 88. A roster of the various regiments represented upon the occasion being called, it appeared that ninety-nine separate military organizations, embracing every arm of the service, and including nearly every loyal State in the Union, were so represented. Wit, humor, merriment, pathos, eloquence and song trod close upon the heels of each other throughout the entire proceedings, which were continued from beginning to end with that nameless but noble fellowship that only those who have pressed together the perilous paths of battle, endured together hunger, thirst, and shared soldier-hardships, and striven together amid the roar of frenzied guns, and where death lesped from the muzzle of every musket, can fully comprehend. Memory is the only Paradise from which men cannot be expelled, and those grizzled defenders of our country in its time of mortal stress lived that night in an Eden of patriotic recollections. Long may they continue to enjoy them.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Although there has been no improvement in the weather, and the streets are in that condition described by gushing young ladies as "perfectly awful," there was a marked increase in the number of auditors present last night, to hear Miss Maggie Mitchell as *Becky Mix*, in her new play of that name. The play and the player seemed to strike everybody favorably, as the laughter was almost constant, and the applause frequent and hearty. The new comedy is not a great deal different from the author's previous play, like the "Mighty Dollar" and "Mulberry Sellers," it amuses the people, and that is what they want. It passed off better, of course, to-night than last night. Mr. William Harris, Mr. Gotthold, Mr. Stockwell, Mr. Willard, Mr. Bock, Mrs. Holmes and Miss Fletcher all have good opportunities, and fully sustain the reputation they have.

There will be a "Becky Mix" matinee this afternoon, and the comedy will be presented again this evening.

Miss Mitchell.

As is known, Miss Maggie Mitchell's engagement extends over next week, and will be marked by the production for the first time here of her new play, dramatized by Mr. Runnion, from Goethe's beautiful story of "Mignon," and called by the same title. The Albany *Argus* says of "Mignon:"

"The dramatist has for the most part very acceptably done his work. The first act somewhat lagged, and at times seemed wanting in some incident to excite interest, and the end of the second is the weakest of the tableau not as effective as it might be made. However, the faults, we judge from witnessing the performance last night, were few compared with the merits of the piece, and we think Mr. Runnion may well be satisfied with his work. The character of *Gyp*—if we correctly remember—W. L. Barton vs. Pittsburgh, Oakland will appear in the opera, but the dramatist has woven it very skillfully into the play, where it is very effective and natural. Miss Mitchell's impersonation of the enthusiastic, despairing, *Mignon* afforded us a refined delight. It was a peculiarly consistent effort throughout, extremely touching in its tender sadness.

Library Hall—"Macbeth."

A good audience in numbers was present at the performance of "Macbeth" last evening at Library Hall, and manifested their appreciation of the rare dramatic treat afforded them in the most unmistakable manner. Mme Janauschek's impersonation of *Lady Macbeth* is fully worthy of her renown as a great tragic actress. We hardly would rank it as the first of her characters, but it is so replete with exhibitions of dramatic power and intensity as to demand the attention and praise of the closest critics. From her first appearance to her last exit in the sleep-walking scene, Mme. Janauschek enthralled her audience, and the silence which attended upon her acting was only broken by the applause elicited by her forcible representation of Shakespeare's most tragic heroine. We need hardly add that any comparison of the *Lady Macbeth* presented last evening with the performances of any cotemporaneous actresses in the same part. Mme. Janauschek and Miss Morris have given two interpretations so widely separated in character that a comparison of them is out of the question. It is enough to say that both are truly great performances, and that Mme. Janauschek's is one which will stand in the memory of the audience powerful tragedienne of the modern stage.

The support was very good, taking all things into consideration. The drama is so long beyond the capabilities of the usual run of stock companies, that we went expecting murderous execution of the subordinate parts. In this we were happily disappointed. Mr. Whiting's *Macduff* was a very creditable performance, and showed a degree of strength which we had hardly expected, even from that very promising young actor. The remaining parts have been improved in many respects, but on the whole it was a remarkable achievement and far above the average *Macbeth* as given to-day. Mr. Neafie's *Malcolm* was also much better than was to be expected, and in the fifth act he exhibited a surprising intensity which fully deserved the applause which it obtained.

This evening Mme Janauschek will appear as *Deborah* in the play of that title. This is a part which she has created by this actress, and in which she is unequaled. We need hardly bespeak for her a full attendance for this performance.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE Board of Fire Commissioners will meet this evening.

A CHILD of Mr. Charles Mertz, of Carson street, had two fingers cut off last evening by having them caught in a door.

THE evening sessions of the Central Board of Education do not attract a full attendance of members, by a large majority.

THE total receipts from Maggie Mitchell's benefit for the Brooklyn sufferers, amounting to $325, were yesterday forwarded to May or Schroeder.

ROSELLA TURNBULL, charged with forgery, etc., on oath of D. D. Bruce, Esq., was committed for trial by Alderman McMasters yesterday.

THE flannels made by Messrs. Rumberger, Gregg & Co., of this city, have been adopted as the standard flannels of the Government, with their seal attached.

THE receipts of the Allegheny Base Ball Club last season were $9,800. The expenses were: For players, $5,000; improvement of grounds, $1,700; advertising, $31.

ADELIA GIBSON, charged before Alderman Burke, on oath of Rebecca Hoyt, with larceny, was yesterday committed for trial and subsequently released on bail.

A CAR on the citizen's street railway, and a wagon loaded with barrels collided near Lawrenceville yesterday much to the discontent of the passengers in the former.

DURING the storm storm on Sunday night goods to the value of sixty dollars were stolen from the show window of C. Roth's dry goods store, No. 519 Penn avenue.

ROBERT MARTIN, the champion checker player of England, will arrive in this city this afternoon. After to-day, for one week, he will play, afternoon and evening, at Stroup's Club House, Fifth avenue.

A MAN giving his name as James M. Thompson was arrested yesterday morning by Officer Bothwell, of allegheny, on the charge of stealing chickens from the premises of Mr. McCauley, the Anderson street flagman. The accused was committed for trial.

ALEXANDER SMITH, a well know farmer on the Perrysville road, died yesterday morning, aged eighty-seven years. The deceased came to this country from Scotland at an early age, and has resided in the vicinity of Perrysville for upward of fifty years.

THE securities offered by the Nation Trust Company stockholders having been approved by the sub committee appointed to examine the same, a meeting of the general committee will be called to take action looking toward a further settlement of the claim of the city.

MR. BURTT, who brought up the resolution as to the employment of teachers, says he discovered that, while the City Superintendent reported the average expense of educating a pupil each year at $20, the cost in the Colfax district taking the past five or six months was at the rate of $50.

CHRIS. A. YOUNG, a rag picker residing at 111 High street, this city, fell on the track of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, at Twenty-fifth street, yesterday morning, and broke his collar bone, besides sustaining internal injuries of a dangerous and probably fatal nature. His family—a wife and two children—are in destitute circumstances.

JOHN GREENWALT, of West Elizabeth, made information before Justice of the Peace Shoaf yesterday, charging Dennis Lloyd and John Stevens with felonious assault and battery. The parties had become involved in a scuffle, during which Greenwalt was gashed severely on the wrist by one of the defendants. The latter have been committed for trial.

THOMAS MCCRANDELL is charged before the Mayor with aggravated assault and battery. About seven o'clock last evening a man having a square cut on his head was brought to the lock-up. He charged that in a fight with McCrandell the latter struck him with a poker. McCrandell was arrested and held, but the name of the injured man was not noted on the station house docket.

It is to be regretted that the Central Board failed, last evening, to approve the proposed act of Assembly providing for a change of the time of organization of the district school boards from January to June of last year. The fiscal year commences June 1st, while the organization and election of officers, including the Treasurer, is now made before the 1st and 20th day of January. Thus the Boards are compelled to settle their accounts to January 1st, while they are also compelled by law to make report for the fiscal year. Besides this, the proposed act would do away with the necessity of an election of Directors in February next, those chosen last February not taking their seats until next January.

Turkish Baths.

Rev. W. C. Vanmeter, Superintendent Howard Mission, New York, says: "Those who think they must "stimulate" or take "Plantation Bitters" or whisky under some other disguised name, will find this bath an *invigorator* that leaves no "sting behind." If you have a cold that makes you ache all over, and your bones feel as if they were being split with a saw, while you sneeze as if you would snap your head off, try a Turkish bath, and you will know how a child feels sleeping sweetly in the arms of its mother. Has the "life you struck" ceased to flow, and have you the blues instead of petroleum? If it rest day in a different place, and without public notice; the vote for its rejection was unanimous, the Attorney General declaring, in reply to a question put to him as to the legal effect of these violations of the law, that it must be thrown out. With this deduction the county was canvassed. Alachua county, seventeen illegal electoral votes, four Republican and thirteen Democratic, at Waldo precinct, were thrown out unanimously; the vote was taken on retaining or throwing out Archer precinct No. 2, the Secretary of State and Comptroller voting to retain, and the Attorney General voting to throw it out. It was retained, and the county canvassed with the before mentioned deduction. Jackson county, Campbellton precinct, giving for the Republican electoral and State tickets seventy-seven votes, and for the Democratic electoral and State tickets two hundred and ninety-one votes, was thrown out of the canvass on account violation of the election laws by the inspectors in removing the ballot-box from the election room at adjournment for dinner into an adjoining room, all the doors being unsealed and concealed from the public during said adjournment, in not counting the ballots at the close of the polls, and comparing them with the names and number of the poll list, and because only seventy-six Republican ballots were counted out of the ballot-box, whereas 133 persons swear that they voted the Republican ticket at the poll. The vote of the board was as follows: Secretary of State and Comptroller for rejecting it, Attorney General for retaining. Friendship precinct, Orange county, Florida, giving the Republican electoral and State tickets forty-four votes, and for the Democratic electoral and State ticket 145 votes, was thrown out of the canvass on account violation of the election laws by the inspectors in placing the ballot-box in such a position as to be out of sight of the voters and public, in placing a supervisor at the window to receive ballots instead of an inspector, in not making and completing the canvass at the polling place and without adjournment, and in view of the public, but in a bedroom two miles away, and in not counting the ballots and comparing them with the number of names on the poll list. As to this precinct the vote of the board was Secretary of State and Comptroller for rejecting it, and Attorney General for retaining. Nassau county was canvassed according to the face of the returns by unanimous vote. Monroe county was canvassed according to the face of the returns by unanimous vote. Levy county was canvassed according to the face of the returns by unanimous vote. Orange county, Dendrick Lloyd and John Stevens with felonious assault and battery. The parties had become involved in a scuffle, during which Greenwalt was gashed severely on the wrist by one of the defendants. The latter have been committed for trial.

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